The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1887.

The Week.

THE *National Republican* of Washington city thinks that the cure-all of the present stringency in money would be an order from the President to the Secretary of the Treasury to receive United States bonds on deposit as security, loaning an amount not exceeding the par value of the bonds so deposited, at interest at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum. The Philadelphia *Press*, with rather clearer views of the state of the law, urges that the Secretary "increase the Government deposits in the depository banks." There is no authority vested in any officer of the Government to lend the public money at any rate of interest. There is plenty of authority for depositing the public money in depository banks, provided the banks furnish security in "United States bonds and otherwise"—the word "otherwise" probably meaning personal security, or the security which the bank offers to all depositors. The law, having been passed during the suspension of specie payments, makes exception of "receipts from customs," which were payable in coin only. So, in a technical sense, the Secretary can only deposit in banks the money received from internal-revenue and miscellaneous sources, but the distinction is quite unimportant. The obstacle to the plan is found in the kind of security required. We imagine that any bank or any number of banks that can give United States bonds at par as security will find little difficulty at Washington in getting all the money they want. But the Secretary cannot change the kind of security required, and ought not to. The depository law is an attempted compromise between the sub-treasury system and the Bank of England system of handling the public funds, but it has ceased to be effective by reason of the scarcity and high price of Government bonds. A holder of United States bonds can ordinarily borrow more money on them in the open market than he can get in the way of deposits from the Government.

The question what is the actual Treasury balance and how does it compare with former periods, is more easily asked than answered, the liabilities of the Government being of such a varied character. Probably the following comparison extracted from the Treasury statements of August 31, 1886, and August 31, 1887, in round numbers and excluding small items, is not far from the truth:

CASH LESS ALL LIABILITIES, INCLUDING CERTIFICATES AND ACCRUED INTEREST.

August 31, 1886	$104,000,000
August 31, 1887	71,000,000
Apparent reduction of balance	$33,000,000

LIABILITIES OTHER THAN CERTIFICATES AND ACCRUED INTEREST.

	Aug. 31, '86.	Aug. 31, '87.
Reserve against greenbacks	$100,000,000	$100,000,000
Redemption fund for national bank notes retired	72,000,000	112,000,000
Disbursing officers' balances	43,000,000	50,000,000
	$215,000,000	$262,000,000
Increase of reserve balances		47,000,000
Less the reduction above		33,000,000
Net increase of cash in Treasury		$14,000,000

Nearly the whole difference in liabilities arises from the retirement of national-bank circulation, against which greenbacks have been deposited in the Treasury. The notes are still outstanding, and so theoretically they constitute a demand liability. But as a matter of fact they come in for redemption very slowly.

The Republican State Convention held at Saratoga last week was neither remarkably good nor remarkably bad. The ticket put in nomination is respectable, but not in any way aggressive. There is nothing original about it, except, perhaps, the nomination of Col. Fred Grant for the leading place. This is more likely to repel than to gain votes, for the reason that it is an attempt to secure an indirect endorsement of Platt as a holding-over Quarantine Commissioner. The Governor nominated Col. Grant as Quarantine Commissioner last winter, Platt's term having long ago expired, and Col. Grant was willing to accept the position. The Senate refused to act upon the nomination. After the Legislature adjourned, Platt wrote a letter to the Governor offering to resign if the Governor would promise to appoint Col. Grant to the place. The Governor replied that it would be indecorous for him to make a bargain beforehand as to the disposition of an office not yet vacant. He added, as a cutting sarcasm, that it was surprising that Mr. Platt, if he wanted Col. Grant to have the office, did not make way for him at the time when the Governor actually nominated him. Of course Platt did not want him to have it, but the spectacle presented to the people by the refusal of the Republican Senate to confirm the son of the great General was so little edifying that something must needs be done. Hence the nomination of Col. Grant for the office of Secretary of State.

The speech of the temporary Chairman, Mr. Seth Low, was the best thing this Convention had to show for itself. It was truthful and fearless to a degree, free from shams, and replete with the spirit of reform which Mr. Low carried into practice as Mayor of Brooklyn. The platform is both long and prosy, and the only point of interest in it is the attempt to dodge the high-license question by using the words "restriction by taxation." No form of words could have been chosen so well calculated to exasperate the temperance men as the resolution which deals with the liquor question. Over this there was a very amusing conflict between Mr. Seth Low and Mr. Evarts. Mr. Low said, in his opening speech, that this was "no time for the Republican party to utter vague uncertainties upon the questions of the hour," and, in enumerating those questions, he placed prohibition first, adding:

"The Republican party should have clear, ringing words to say in the presence of a question like this. So far as the Prohibition vote is a political vote it is, in my opinion, out of our reach; for I believe it to be oftentimes in the interest of the other side. Let us then abandon all attempts to catch this vote, and plant ourselves distinctly upon the broad middle ground between the two extremes. Let us stand for high license and for local option. This is the platform sure to draw to itself in the end the great mass of moderate men."

When Mr. Evarts rose to explain why in his estimation the plank which he had drawn was neither "shilly-shally" nor "contemptible," he said: "We of the Committee did not choose to commit the Convention to the phrase 'license,' which many people, and many sensible people, object to, nor to the phrase 'high,' which means to many minds higher than it ought to be. We provide that when local option does not extirpate this mischief of the liquor traffic, then we recommend restriction by taxation—high taxation, heavy taxation, taxation that will restrict"; and then he quoted with great solemnity from Chief-Justice Marshall that the "right to tax is the right to destroy." The Convention howled with delight at this erudite defence of the platform's phraseology, and Mr. Evarts sat down and chuckled, as well he might.

The official count of the vote on the prohibition amendment in Texas deserves the careful attention of all who are interested in the drift of public sentiment and the attitude of parties regarding the temperance issue. The total vote was much the largest ever cast in the State—351,207, against only 322,209 for President in 1884—thus showing that a question of public policy can interest voters quite as deeply as a contest over the offices. Of this total, 129,273 were cast for prohibition, and 221,934 against, which means that of every 100 voters 37 supported the amendment and 63 opposed it. Some Republican organs have contrasted the adverse majority of 92,661 with Cleveland's plurality of 131,978 over Blaine as evidence that the Republicans were gaining upon the Democrats, manifestly supposing that the Republicans as a rule favored prohibition, and the Democrats as a rule opposed it. A greater mistake could not be made. In 1884 Blaine carried nineteen counties in Texas. Every one of these nineteen counties voted against prohibition, their aggregate being 9,207 for the amendment and 30,352 against it. Further analysis shows that the negro vote was almost solid against prohibition. Thus Fort Bend, which has 7,508 negroes to 1,871 whites, gave only 399 votes for the amendment, and 1,595 against it, which agrees almost exactly with the vote in 1884 of 317 for Cleveland and 1,588 for Blaine.

On Sunday the Central Labor Union, which nominated George for Mayor last fall, and did the larger part of the work of his campaign, was shown to be about evenly divided between George and the Socialist or Progressive Labor party, which is anti-George. The test vote showed 52 members for George to 44 against him. Furthermore, the anti-George party has control of the *Leader*, which is the only daily Labor organ in the city. The result of Sunday's meeting confirms what John Swinton said on Saturday of the disintegration that is in progress in the Labor party. He declared that last year George "had the powerful

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support of the Central Labor Union, which he certainly will not have this year"; that the support of Irving Hall gave him the "use of a working machine, but that machine will be turned against him this year"; that the Socialists, "who brought energy and funds into the George ranks," are this year organized in hostile array; that of "eighty or ninety trade unions which gave him their active support last year, at least sixty are antagonistic to him"; that Powderly will not come to his aid this year, and that the Knights of Labor will not issue a "red-letter call" in his behalf; and, finally, he will, through his association with McGlynn, have the bitter opposition of the whole Roman Catholic Church. One other cause of George's weakness which Mr. Swinton touches upon, is, we have no doubt, the most powerful of all, and that is the very strong suspicion of "deals" between him and the leaders of the regular political parties. Mr. Swinton charges directly that the "George ring traded with the Democrats on the State judicial ticket and with the Republicans for members of Congress," and declares that "such jobbery is again going on this year—not only with Boss Platt for the Republicans, but with Jimmy O'Brien for himself, and with others yet out of sight." As for evidence of a "deal" with the Republicans this year, Mr. George confessed it at his convention when he suppressed his free-trade views in his platform, and put three professional Blaine-Butler men upon his ticket; but he made all concealment impossible when he requested Mr. McClave, the Republican member of the Police Board, to name his 812 election-district inspectors for him.

The lively scolding which the Charleston *News and Courier* gives Jeff Davis for his inability to forget the past, and his "preference to stand alone and be a Confederate sign-post," is fully deserved, but we doubt if the talk which the *News and Courier* objects to has much influence upon anybody. The bloody-shirt organs always quote every fresh instalment of it with impressive comments about the South "still being rebel at heart," but even they do not believe anything of the kind. Davis has long since ceased to represent the South, or to speak for anybody save himself. His refusal to ask to have his political disabilities removed is probably based upon the conviction that, so long as he retains the distinction of being the only unreconciled rebel, he will attract much more public attention than he could hope to in any other way. After all, his ravings are not much more of a burden than the wearisome harangues which Gov. Foraker and Senator Sherman are pouring out in the Ohio campaign, with the bloody shirt and rebel flags as their chief topics.

The extent to which the leaders in the Confederacy have passed away is only appreciated when the roll is called, as has been done by Col. C. C. Jones, jr., in a recent address before the Confederate Survivors' Association. The Constitution of the Confederate States was signed by forty-nine delegates, thirty-seven of whom are dead. The President survives, but Vice President Stephens died four years ago. Of three who held the portfolio of State in the Cabinet, all are dead; of five Secretaries of War, all; of two Secretaries of the Treasury, one; of four Attorneys-General, two, and the one Secretary of the Navy; while the sole Postmaster-General, Mr. Reagan, is still very much alive, as he proved by taking the stump for Prohibition in the recent Texas canvass, and arguing against the declaration on the other side of his old chief. Of thirteen Commissioners accredited to represent the Confederacy abroad, ten are dead. There were five men who bore rank as full generals in the army, of whom Johnston and Beauregard alone survive; twenty-one lieutenant-generals, of whom eleven are dead; 100 major-generals, of whom fifty-five are dead; and 480 brigadier-generals, of whom Col. Jones thinks that considerably more than half are dead. Each year makes serious inroads upon the survivors, and it will not be so very long before the "Confederate brigadier," so dear to Bourbon Republican organs and stump-speakers, will be only a memory.

What seems a very strange decision has been rendered by Mr. Justice Paul in the United States Circuit Court for the Western District of Virginia, in the case of Woodland and wife vs. Newhall's administrators, reported in the *Federal Reporter* for August 30. The facts set forth in the bill, not denied in the answers, and sustained by the evidence taken in the cause, are that, in the year 1857 or 1858, Paulina Isbell, the mother of the female complainant, being a slave, with savings of her wages purchased her freedom and that of her daughter. The law of Virginia at that time forbidding a slave set free to remain in the State, Paulina, not wishing with her child to leave Virginia, had the title to the two, as slaves, made out to Newhall, with the full right and privilege reserved by them, and agreed to by himself for them, to do as they pleased, just as free-born citizens, which privilege they ever after exercised, Newhall being always ready and willing to release his bare title whenever they should so desire. Under this state of things, Paulina, having further accumulated $1,000, placed the same in Newhall's hands, in trust to buy her a house and lot. Newhall accepted the trust and bought a house and lot, but, finding the title defective, annulled the purchase, and died before he executed the trust. Paulina died before Newhall, but he all the time acknowledged the trust, and after her death he kept an account of his indebtedness to "the estate of Paulina Isbell." Newhall made his will on March 20, 1865, in which he gave his estate, a large one, to his two nephews, Harrison Sublett and Charles M. Sublett. This will was admitted to probate on April 3, 1865, and Charles M. Sublett qualified as the executor thereof. On the same day of making his will Newhall executed a witnessed paper of directions to his two nephews, the legatees in his will: "*To my Nephews, Charles M. and Harrison Sublett:* Having entire confidence in you, I wish you to carry out this, my will in fact." After other matters, he says: "Pay to Lizzie Penn one thousand dollars ($1,000). [This was the female plaintiff in this suit.] I give this in consideration of the amount I owe her mother, which is on my books. Set her free, and see that she has all her rights. These legacies must be paid in specie or its equivalent." The executor recognized the trust by paying interest on the $1,000 to July, 1871, and made several promises to pay the principal at an early day, but, failing to pay any further sum, after preliminary proceedings of no present significance, the suit under mention was instituted.

The paper of directions called a "will in fact" the Court disposed of by saying that it is null and void as a testamentary paper, for want of the requisite number of witnesses, and does not create a trust, because it is not founded upon any meritorious or valuable consideration. As to the substance of the case, the Court held that Paulina was a slave, and all of her efforts to secure her freedom did not change her condition in the slightest degree. No matter how much liberty she may have been allowed, nor what privileges common to free persons she may have been permitted to enjoy by Newhall, who purchased her and stood in the place of her master and owner, she was equally a slave, and all the disqualifications and disabilities incident to that condition of servitude attached to her. The statute law of Virginia prescribed the means, and it was the only way, by which a slave could be emancipated, that is, by last will in writing, or by deed duly recorded in the proper court—to be followed, of course, by expatriation, as we have noted, to avoid which was the sole object of Paulina's retaining the slave status nominally. As a slave, she could neither contract nor be contracted with. "It follows," says the Court, "that all agreements and contracts of every kind between Paulina and Newhall were entirely null and void." "They created no legal obligation whatever on Newhall which will support a trust for the benefit of the child of the slave mother." "All contracts, rights, trusts, and obligations growing out of Newhall's transactions with the slave Paulina Isbell must fall to the ground as utter nullities." The bill was dismissed upon the merits.

In current newspaper discussion it seems to be assumed that the Union Pacific Railway officers have refused to answer certain questions put to them by the Pacific Railroad Commission, which has lately returned from the Pacific Coast. This idea has doubtless been engendered by the refusal of the Central Pacific people to answer certain questions put to them, and by Justice Field's decision that they could not be compelled to answer except in ordinary judicial proceedings. The fact is, that the Union Pacific officers answered every question put to them and exhibited every book and paper called for. In short, they "turned themselves inside out," and for this they ought to have due credit. We believe that President Adams proposed, in addition, to pay the Government in full now and take a quittance. In the present state of the money market this might not be practicable, but it would have been practicable a year ago, and will become so whenever the present stringency subsides. It is an indispensable condition, however, that the Government should release its second-mortgage lien upon receiving its money. This requires additional

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legislation. When the Commission make their report, the necessary legislation will undoubtedly be obtained, for the denial of it would imply that Congress wants something more than payment in full.

The President's exposition of his and Mrs. Cleveland's attitude towards the invitation to her to present the flags to the firemen ought to, and we trust will, settle the matter, and relieve the minds of all concerned from any burden the affair may have imposed on them. The rule which the President lays down, that the President's wife ought not to assume any "public rôle independent of her husband, and not as an adjunct or incident to something he is to do," is, if not a necessary, certainly a wise and convenient, one. There is always a vigorous effort made during every Administration, especially by society in Washington and by the newspapers elsewhere, to give a touch of royalty to the President's family, and assign to their sayings and doings an importance which a certain class in Europe derives from "the blood." In other words, it is difficult in our day, and has been difficult ever since the Middle Ages, to keep any chief magistrate a magistrate simply, in the Roman sense. People will insist on giving him and his belongings a touch of "the divinity that doth hedge a king." Consequently his son runs some risk of being flattered as if he were an heir apparent, and his wife of being converted into a sort of viceroy, charged with the social portion of the Presidential functions, with the title of "the First Lady in the Land." It is just as well to discountenance this notion whenever it takes on a concrete form. There is no more fitness in calling on the President's wife to lead in a public function than in calling on his son or his daughter, and it is rather absurd to try to make her an *ex-officio* social leader. Mrs. Cleveland happens to be eminently fitted for such a part, but all Presidents' wives are not.

It is difficult to guess on what ground the condemned Chicago Anarchists propose to carry their case to the Supreme Court of the United States, or how Capt. Black expects to bring it there. The idea is probably of a piece with the expectation that the President could be got to pardon them. The most comfortable frame of mind is that of those of them who maintain that they have done nothing for which they ought to ask pardon of anybody, that it is for "society to ask pardon of them, not for them to ask pardon of society," and that they will "die as they have lived." If the infliction of capital punishment be ever useful and desirable, it is certainly so in their case. Nothing short of it could ever convince the strange horde of social malcontents who are landing here every year, that the United States is not a good place for anarchy. The prompt way in which the Milwaukee riots were put down has done a world of good in Wisconsin, and the hanging of these six murderers will similarly clear the Anarchist brain in Chicago. It is not a brain that can be worked on by exposition or instruction. It needs to be met by the blank wall of impossibility, before it can settle down to industry or sober living.

That Sir William Harcourt has come to the front during the past session of Parliament as Mr. Gladstone's successor in the leadership of the Liberal party, is what might have been expected from the remarkable powers as a debater which he has exhibited both in the House and on the stump. His attacks on the Ministry have been almost cruel in their effectiveness. It is not an exaggeration to say that they have ruined Mr. Goschen as a politician. This service, rendered in the darkest days of the Liberal party, has, of course, helped to wipe out the memory of the vacillation which Sir William undoubtedly displayed in the earlier days. In 1874 it seemed very doubtful, after Gladstone's defeat, whether he would stand by him any longer or not. Reflection probably brought wisdom, and he has, since the Irish question came up, come to the discussion of it with the experience of a man who has tried all the Tory arts and knows their worthlessness. When he is twitted with having been a coercionist himself, he has the ready reply that this is the very reason why he is now an anti-coercionist.

A curious "crisis" in the famous Government manufacture of Sèvres porcelain, near Paris, has just come to an end. Until very recently the painters and sculptors employed in the manufacture worked by the piece—that is, they undertook a certain article, were paid for it when finished a certain amount, and chose their own hours while engaged on it. Some months ago a new director, M. Lauth, was appointed, and he began reforming by putting the artists on salaries and insisting that they should keep regular office hours and be timed whenever they entered or left the building. They thereupon struck, or rather threatened to strike, and probably would have struck if M. Lauth had not resigned and M. Deck had not succeeded him. M. Deck has restored piece work, and lets the painters and sculptors come and go when they please, but "invites" them to observe the same hours as the other employees of the establishment, and there has been accordingly great rejoicing. But the critical public in France still complains of the great falling off in the Sèvres porcelain, owing to the profuse production of popular vases for prizes at agricultural and other shows and matches, and presentations to railroad conductors, firemen, and the like. The artists do not put their best work into things like these, and accordingly it is announced that the production of them at the manufactory is to cease.

The German crownlands of Cisleithan Austria are Catholic, warmly attached to their Hapsburg dynasty, which has ruled them for six centuries, and proud of their common capital, Vienna; but they are German, and constant and growing national contentions with the Slavs of the empire have heightened a centrifugal tendency towards a union with the German Empire. In Hungary, a spirit of complete national independence is constantly at work, as it has been for centuries, counterbalancing the craving of security from a crushing foe which the connection with the other provinces of the Hapsburgs afforded when the Turk held Buda and ravaged the Hungarian plains, and now affords in face of threatening Russian Panslavism. Bohemia, rendered intensely Catholic by the work of Ferdinand II., Wallenstein, and the Jesuits in the Thirty Years' War, and dreading above all the Protestant German power of neighboring Prussia, whose armies have repeatedly swept over her fields and cities, clings through her nobility and clergy with fervent loyalty to the House of Hapsburg; but she is also bent on regaining her former status as a Slavic kingdom, with Moravia and Austrian Silesia as integral parts, and her democratic younger generation gravitates towards Russia as a ready ally against the Teutons, whether ruled from Berlin or Vienna. Galicia, the only part of Poland which enjoys a Polish autonomy, is cordially thankful to the Emperor Francis Joseph for that national blessing and for protection from the hated Muscovite, but she makes no secret of regarding her connection with the empire of the Hapsburgs as only temporary, being ready to coalesce with Russian and Prussian Poland as soon as freedom dawns once more upon the now divided fatherland.

We are reminded of these intrinsic political dualisms by the antagonism which has recently been developed within the most artificial and most temporary of the Austro-Hungarian political combinations. We refer to the clerico-feudal and nationalist coalition which sustains the Cisleithan Cabinet of Count Taaffe by a large parliamentary majority. The Poles of Galicia and the Czechs of Bohemia and Moravia are the leading elements in that coalition, which is in the main federalistic, directed against the centralizing tendencies of the German Liberals, and consequently intrinsically Slavic. But impatient of what they deem a still slow advance towards complete national supremacy in Bohemia and Moravia, the Czechs, and especially the Young-Czech faction of them, have of late assumed so pronounced an ultra-Slavic tone in dealing with their German fellow-citizens and the Vienna authorities, and have given such decided vent to their pro-Russian leanings, that the Poles, who are longingly waiting for a clash in the Balkan Peninsula to call them under the Austro-Hungarian banner against Russia, now find the utterances of some of their Bohemian and Moravian allies smacking of treason towards the empire and dynasty to which they owe allegiance. This antagonism within the Slavic camp of Austria is rapidly growing into an irrepressible feud. Thus every political field of that empire shows centrifugal side by side with centripetal activities respecting it. But the phenomenon is not new, and he would be rash who should conclude from so much internal friction and threatening collision that disruption must ensue. The cohesive power of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy lies in the inability of its component parts to maintain themselves in solitary independence against neighbors whom they dread; it is stronger than the animosities which divide them, and it is a lasting power.

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SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, September 14, to TUESDAY, September 20, 1887, inclusive.

DOMESTIC.

THE centenary of the Federal Constitution was celebrated in Philadelphia on September 15-17. On the first day there was an industrial parade illustrative of the progress that has been made in the practical arts and sciences and in the development of the country during the last one hundred years. On the second day there was a military parade of United States troops and marines and of militia of many of the States. On the third day an oration on the Constitution by Justice Miller of the United States Supreme Court and a brief address by President Cleveland were delivered. The city was profusely decorated, every part of the programme was smoothly carried out, and a larger number of people participated in the celebration than in any preceding celebration of the kind in the United States.

The Department of State has declined to ask the British Government for the extradition of McGarigle, the fugitive from Chicago, because there is not sufficient ground for such a request under the existing treaty.

The annual report of the United States Pension Commissioner, published September 14, shows that there were at the close of the fiscal year, June 30, 406,007 pensioners, as follows: 294,445 army invalids, 85,010 army widows, minor children, and dependent relatives; 3,281 navy invalids, 1,975 navy widows, minor children, and dependent relatives; 1,069 survivors of the war of 1812, and 11,831 widows of those who served in that war; 7,503 survivors of the war with Mexico, and 895 widows of those who served in that war. There were added to the rolls during the year 55,194 new pensioners, and 17,677 were dropped. The amount paid for pensions during the year was $73,465,581, an increase over the previous year of $9,669,750.

A decision was handed down September 14 by the Supreme Court of Illinois affirming the decision of the lower court and the verdict of the jury in the cases of the Anarchists convicted of the murder of policemen in Chicago, and it was ordered that August Spies, Michael Schwab, Samuel Fielden, A. R. Parsons, Adolph Fischer, George Engel, and Louis Ling be hanged November 11, and that Oscar W. Neebe be sent to the penitentiary for fourteen years.

The New York Republican Convention at Saratoga September 14 nominated Frederick D. Grant for Secretary of State, James H. Carmichael for Treasurer, Jesse Lamoreaux for Comptroller, James A. Dennison for Attorney-General, and O. H. P. Cornell for State Engineer and Surveyor.

The Massachusetts Democratic Convention September 20 nominated Henry B. Lovering for Governor, Walter Cutting for Lieutenant-Governor, John F. Murphy for Secretary of State, Henry C. Thatcher for Treasurer, John W. Corcoran for Attorney-General, and William F. Cooke for Auditor. The platform is a less sincere expression of approval of the President's policy of civil-service reform than the platform adopted by the Massachusetts Democrats last year.

The Legislature of Montana Territory last winter offered a bounty of 10 cents for every prairie dog killed, and of 5 cents for every ground squirrel. More than $50,000 had been spent by the middle of August, and the Legislature was called in special session to repeal the law granting these bounties. It did its work and adjourned September 14.

In reply to Southern criticisms of its opposition to inviting Mr. Jefferson Davis to fairs and similar gatherings of people, the Charleston *News and Courier*, a Democratic journal, in a recent issue said: "The political disabilities of Mr. Davis would be removed upon petition, as were the political disabilities of Vice-President Stephens, Postmaster-General Reagan, and a host of other Confederates of high position. It is his preference to stand alone and to be a Confederate sign-post. Nobody cares to find fault with this wish, perhaps, but there is the right, and the will besides, to remind Mr. Davis that he owes more to the South than the South can ever owe to him, and that he is untrue to the people who were always true to him when he puts himself in a position to injure them by furnishing material for a political war to the enemies of the Southern States and of the Union in general."

Settlers are rushing into the country near Baraga, Mich., to preëmpt pine and farming lands recently taken away from a railroad company by a ruling of the Interior Department.

The American Forestry Congress at Springfield, Ill., September 16, prepared a memorial to Congress, to enact a law providing for the protection of the forests on the public land, the withdrawal of forest land from entry under existing laws, the classification of forest land, the creation of forest reserves, the creation of a Commissioner of Forests in the Department of the Interior and four assistant Commissioners, the organization of a force of inspectors, and an appropriation of $500,000.

In the case of the State of Iowa against Fred. Munchrath, jr., who was on trial as accessory to the murder of the Rev. Mr. Haddock, a Prohibitionist, the jury at Sioux City, Ia., September 18, brought in a verdict of manslaughter.

September 20, an express train on the Texas and Pacific Railway was robbed near Benbrook, Tex. In the passenger cars there were armed guards, but the robbers forced the engineer to stop the train so that the passenger coaches were over a high trestle, and they robbed the express and the mail cars of a large sum of money.

The trial races between the American sloop yachts, the *Volunteer* and the *Mayflower*, to decide which should race with the Scotch yacht, the *Thistle*, were sailed on September 14, 15, and 16. There was no breeze on September 14 and 15, but on the 16th the *Volunteer* won, and was chosen as the defender of the *America's* cup. The dates of the races between the *Volunteer* and the *Thistle* are September 27, 29, and, if necessary, October 1.

Ex-Gov. Luke P. Blackburn of Kentucky died at Frankfort September 14, aged seventy-one. He was a physician, and he distinguished himself in several epidemics of yellow fever by his devotion to the sick. Joseph Cilley, the oldest ex-United States Senator and a veteran of the war of 1812, died at Nottingham, N. H., September 16, at the age of ninety-six. Mrs. Septima Randolph Meikleham, the last surviving grandchild of Thomas Jefferson, died at Washington, September 14, the day before the celebration was begun at Philadelphia of the one hundredth anniversary of the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Rear-Admiral J. R. Madison Mullany died at Bryn Mawr, Pa., September 17, in his seventieth year. He entered the navy as a midshipman in 1832.

FOREIGN.

An English home-rule deputation were welcomed to Dublin by an immense meeting September 14. Messrs. Rogers, Conybeare, and Pickersgill, English members of Parliament, and several women, made addresses. At the annual convention of the Highland Land League, in session at Oban, Scotland, on the same day, a resolution was adopted condemning Government interference with freedom of speech in Ireland. Mr. J. T. Brunner, Liberal member of Parliament for the Northwich Division of Cheshire, has given $5,000 for the purpose of starting a fund to relieve the distress prevalent in Ireland. He has suggested that Earl Spencer, the Earl of Aberdeen, and Baron Wolverton be selected as trustees of the fund, and that a commission of well-known men from England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales be appointed to superintend its collection and disbursement.

At a conference of Irish landlords at Dublin, September 15, resolutions were adopted denying that the present rents prevailing in Ireland are excessive, or that general and reasonable abatements have been refused during times of distress. The landlords of Ireland, it was maintained, have rendered important services to Irish agriculture, and they do not, as alleged, neglect their duties towards either their property or the community. The resolutions declare further: "We demand that the Government speedily and finally settle land legislation in Ireland on just terms to all parties concerned, including compensation to landlords for the loss of exclusive ownership and the reduction of the public charges on land."

At a conference of Scottish Home Rulers at London September 16, Mr. Findlater, President of the Scottish Farmers' Alliance, advocated home rule for Scotland. He declared that the northern and eastern counties of Scotland were ripe for it. A committee was appointed to consider the question of bringing the matter before Parliament.

Parliament was prorogued September 16. In the Queen's speech there was the following paragraph on legislation about Ireland: "The wants and difficulties of Ireland have occupied your close attention during a protracted session. I trust the remedies your wisdom has provided will gradually effect a complete restoration of order in Ireland and give renewed encouragement to peaceful industry. In order to pass them it has been necessary to postpone many important measures affecting other parts of the kingdom, which doubtless you will be able to resume without hindrance at the coming session." At the end of the session the Government is weaker by eight votes than it was at the beginning, four by the bye-elections and four of members who have changed from Unionists to Gladstonians. There are besides about a dozen Radical Unionists upon whom the Conservatives cannot depend during the coercionist divisions. The Gladstonians have not lost a single man, either at the elections or through disaffection.

Mr. Mandeville, who was charged with violating the Crimes Act at the same time Mr. O'Brien's offence was committed, was arrested at Mitchelstown September 17.

A proclamation was published September 19 suppressing the League and all its branches in County Clare and various branches in Galway, Kerry, Cork, and Wexford. It is signed by Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, commander of the forces in Ireland; Baron Ashbourne, Lord Chancellor of Ireland; A. J. Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland; Henry Bruen, Justice of the Peace; J. G. Gibson, Attorney-General for Ireland, and Gen. Sir Redvers Buller. The proclamation makes it criminal to convoke, hold, or publish meetings or do anything in connection with the League.

September 20 Mr. John Dillon presided at a meeting in the Limerick Town Hall under the auspices of the National League. He said that Mr. O'Brien would doubtless be condemned as a felon, but if so, he would have the sympathy of the whole civilized world. The Government must not think they could crush the League by any such means as those resorted to in the persecution of Mr. O'Brien. Each arrest of that kind would add fresh courage and spirit to the people of Ireland in their struggle for home rule, and increase the gulf of separation between the landlords and populace and put new fuel into the fire now burning. The United States of America was now back of the great Irish home-rule movement.

A sergeant of the Irish Constabulary, in his testimony before the coroner's jury at Mitchelstown, Ireland, September 19, said that buckshot was fired from the back windows solely to defend the policemen who were running to endeavor to get into the barracks to escape the stones which were coming thick and fast upon

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them. Mr. Timothy Harrington, Secretary of the Irish National League, denounced the witness as a murderer. The Crown counsel protested against the use of such language, and Mr. Harrington answered: "The jury will also call him a murderer."

The mission of Mgr. Persico, the Pope's envoy to Ireland, has been prolonged.

The English Socialists have for some time been diligently working among the Northumberland miners, and have persuaded the Miners' Union to discontinue the payment of funds to Mr. Burt and Mr. Fenwick, the miners' members of Parliament. The real reason of this is that Mr. Burt and Mr. Fenwick are moderate men, Mr. Burt being one of the most respected members of the House of Commons, and that they have not worked on Socialist lines. Mr. Burt got £500 a year for his services, and Mr. Fenwick £200. Unless their constituents make some provision, they will have to retire in November.

The Executive Committee of the new National Labor party in England has issued an address in which the following programme of reforms is laid down: Adult suffrage, one man to have but one vote, the payment of members of Parliament by the State, free education, land reform, poor-law reform, the maintenance of free trade but the abolition of State-paid bounties, home rule and local government reform, and religious equality.

The *Trafalgar*, the largest ironclad ever constructed, was successfully launched at Portsmouth, Eng., September 20. She is of 11,940 tons and 12,000 horse-power, and will carry 12 guns—4 of 67 tons and 8 of 40 hundredweight.

An excursion train on the Midland Railway in England came in collision with another train September 16, and twenty-three persons were killed and sixty hurt.

The Count of Paris issued a manifesto September 14, in which he said: "The apparent calm ill conceals the perils of the future. All-powerful electoral considerations dominate Parliament and sterilize all efforts to adjust the finances. The instability of the Executive isolates France in Europe. The ascendant faction oppresses the remainder. Nobody has confidence in the morrow. The situation imposes duties upon the Monarchists in the country, who, unshackled like those in Parliament by a limited mandate, must show France how necessary it is and how easy it will be to restore the monarchy, and must reassure her against imaginary dangers and prove that the transition can be legally effected." The manifesto concluded: "May all good citizens whose hopes have been deceived, whose interests have been compromised and whose consciences have been wounded, by the present régime join the laborers of the first hour to prepare a common salvation. May they second the efforts of him who will be King of all and the first servant of France." The Paris *Temps* said: "The document will have no disquieting influence on the country. It will only excite and embarrass the Right, owing to their *rapprochement* with the Government. It indicates, between the Count's views and the Cæsarian doctrine of empire, that the monarchy can only be restored through a violent internal crisis and the triumph of anarchy. Republicans whose political experience continues to increase will not afford the monarchy that chance." The supporters of Boulanger take credit for having warned the country of "the Royalist conspiracy" in the Chamber. M de Cassagnac has assured Premier Rouvier that, notwithstanding the manifesto, the Right will continue to support the Cabinet, but on the condition that no change be made in the policy of conciliation which the Cabinet has hitherto pursued. The manifesto made no impression in Germany. The London *Times* declared that the Count chose the present moment to issue it because he fears that his followers are being insensibly drawn into acquiescing in the Republic.

The manifesto has had the effect in France of causing the announcement to be published that M. Rouvier, on the opening of the Chamber of Deputies, will deliver a reply to it; that several of the Extremist Deputies will initiate a movement for the expulsion of all Orleanist and Bonapartist Princes; and that the proposition will again be made to confiscate all their property in France.

At a military banquet given in Toulouse September 13, Gen. Bréart declared that France now knew her strength, and that she was ready and awaited revenge. M. Cales, member of the Chamber of Deputies, made a similar speech.

Gen. Boulanger, in an address to the officers of his command at Clermont-Ferrand, September 17, said: "We have to-day more need than ever of the qualities of a warrior. No, the hour has not yet struck for the disarmament of the peoples of old Europe. It is madness to believe it a crime to say this, for it points to peace at any price as the goal to which our country should aspire; and our enemies—who often appraise us at our real value better than we do ourselves—know well that we have not got as far as that. More than ever we must continue the work. It is for France."

The clerks in the French War Office who were arrested on the charge of divulging the details of the plan for the mobilization of the Seventeenth Army Corps have been found innocent, and have been released. It has been learned that it was a newspaper writer who sold the information for 250 francs to the Paris *Figaro*.

A son of M. Schnaebelé, the French Commissary who was arrested at Pagny-sur-Moselle last April by the Germans, has been arrested and imprisoned by the German authorities for crossing the frontier near Cheminot and affixing a treasonable placard bearing the tricolor of France upon a tree by the roadside.

The census of France for 1886, which has just been issued, shows an excess of births over deaths of 52,560, against 85,000 in 1885. The divorces granted in 1886 numbered 2,949, against 4,277 in 1885.

A French dentist on September 14 removed a tumor from the gums of the German Crown Prince Frederick William.

The German police have arrested twenty-six Social Democrats at Breslau, including two editors of Social Democratic papers.

The *North German Gazette* declared on September 19 that in consequence of the failure of the Czar to offer to visit the German Emperor, it is fully understood that the alliance of the three Emperors is at an end. Germany has recovered her freedom of action, and can, without further regard to Russia, more closely strengthen her ties of alliance with Austria.

La Bulgarie, a newspaper published at Rustchuk, Bulgaria, recently declared that the German Vice-Consul had been recalled on account of scandalous conduct. By order of the Government on the following day it issued a formal denial of the statement and offered an apology. But the German Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople sent a note to the Porte requesting that three German war ships be allowed to pass through the Dardanelles en route to Bulgarian ports to demand satisfaction. In order further to satisfy Germany, the Bulgarian Government will suppress the paper and prosecute the editor.

It was reported September 20 that Germany had officially declared the satisfaction offered by Bulgaria sufficient.

The Porte has sent another circular to the Powers, proposing that a general chosen by Turkey and Russia jointly be sent to Bulgaria with power to restore order in that country in accordance with the terms of the Treaty of Berlin. The assent of Germany, France, and Russia to this proposal is considered certain, while that of England, Austria, and Italy is thought uncertain.

A pamphlet has been circulated in St. Petersburg announcing that the reorganization of the Nihilists has been successful, and that the centres of action are fully provided for the carrying out of their plans. Nihilism is said to be fast spreading in Siberia, where during August forty-five guards absconded and twenty-three prisoners escaped.

The widow of M. Katkoff, the Russian editor, is preparing for publication enough of his newspaper writings to fill eight volumes, comprising 5,000 pages.

There were 56 new cases of cholera reported at Rome, and 252 new cases and 113 deaths at Messina, from September 14 to September 17. From the latter city 30,000 persons are reported to have fled, and business is suspended.

King Humbert has subscribed $10,000 to the fund to relieve the sufferers at Messina, and 200 Golden Cross volunteers are trying to check the epidemic. Almost all the inhabitants rich enough to bear the expense have left the city.

King William opened the Parliament of Holland September 19. He thanked the people for the evidences of national loyalty which they manifested so conspicuously during the recent celebration of his seventieth birthday. The finances of Holland and her relations with all foreign countries, the King said, were in a satisfactory condition. He hoped the bill for a revision of the Constitution would be passed, and announced that measures would be proposed for the promotion of agriculture and for the improvement of the training of Dutch youth for service in the navy.

Prof. Aloys von Brinz, the jurist, died at Munich September 13. After 1861 he had been a pro-German member of the Bohemian Diet and of the Austrian Reichsrath. Gen. Count von Werder died on September 12 on his eightieth birthday at Greussen, Pomerania. He took part in the engagements before Strasbourg and in the battles near Belfort, in the Franco-German war, and won a victory of great importance for the Germans in the defeat of Bourbaki's army. The celebrated critic, Frederick Theodoré Vischer, died at Grüningen September 14. M. Charles Ferdinand Gambon, the French politician, died September 17. Richard Quain, M. D., F. R. S., the well-known English physician and writer on medical subjects, died on the same day. He edited a 'Dictionary of Medicine,' published in 1882, and was the author of many valuable papers on medical topics.

Information has been received by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions at Boston that there is great distress in Asia Minor. The missionaries of the Board at Adana report that 1,500 families have to be fed by charity. Numbers of the people are kept alive by eating grass, roots, berries, and small fruits. An appeal is made by the Board for money for their relief.

A private letter from Rio Janeiro has been published at Cincinnati wherein it is said that the Emperor Dom Pedro has lost his mind; that when he sailed from Rio Janeiro to Europe on June 30, he went never to return, and that his daughter, Donna Izabel, is now at the head of the Government

President Diaz opened the Mexican Congress September 16. He said that, generally speaking, Mexico's relations with foreign Governments were friendly, and that harmonious relations continue to be cultivated with the United States. If there were not wanting diplomatic complaints of one country against the other, they were due to private individuals who deemed themselves injured, and this state of affairs must be considered a consequence of the contact which neighborhood produced.

The *Mexican Financier* (City of Mexico) advocates the formation of a joint international tribunal of arbitration between Mexico, the United States, and England, so that the irritating questions continually arising, especially on the border, may be settled on grounds of equity. This is proposed in the belief that the United States and England will enter into some such arrangement.

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SOME THINGS OVERLOOKED AT THE CENTENNIAL.

It is rather curious that amid the numerous comments which the celebration of the Centennial of the Constitution has called forth, so little mention has been made of the failure of the instrument to overcome the main difficulties in the way of its original framers. Their two great difficulties were the union of slave and free States under a common government, and the merging of State allegiance in national allegiance in the mind of the citizens of the several States. Everything else was comparatively easy. But on these two points the Constitution was only partially successful. It only held the slave States in the Union for two generations, and never succeeded in getting itself really accepted by the people of the slave States as "the supreme law of the land." The compromises or arrangements by which it sought to accomplish these objects, after what must be considered a comparatively short time, broke down one after the other—that is to say, they failed completely to satisfy that portion of the population for whose satisfaction they were intended. The provision for the return of fugitive slaves proved insufficient for the protection of slave property. The partial counting of slaves as a basis for representation did not succeed in the eyes of the owners in preserving the balance of power between the free and the slave States. Moreover, seventy years of familiarity with the direct exercise of the Federal power on individuals did not establish at the South the feeling of nationality, or weaken the opinion of the people that the State Government was the supreme object of their political devotion.

When these things are taken into account, we think it will be generally admitted that the Constitution may be fairly considered as having existed in what may be called a provisional or experimental stage down to 1861, and that a very large share of whatever glory is due to its framers belongs of right to the men of the generation now passing away. They twenty-five years ago resolved that they would cure its defects at whatever cost, and put it into an undeniably permanent shape, and did so amid difficulties compared to which those of the Convention of 1787 were a mere trifle. They took hold resolutely of all the seriously obscure or ambiguous passages in the instrument, and of all compromises which had proved difficult or incapable of execution, and eliminated them. The amendments they made took up the points on which there was widespread or dangerous difference of opinion, and settled them in language which nobody can fail to understand. Nobody, for instance, who remembers the trouble caused by the doubt which prevailed under the old Constitution as to the power of the State Governments in fixing the status of persons within their limits, can help feeling that the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth amendments were an immense boon to the nation, considered merely as settlers of controversy. They cleared up matters which for seventy years had occupied, to the serious injury of great interests, a large proportion of the acutest minds of the country in fruitless logomachy.

Consider, again, the condition of doubt in which the old Constitution left a large part of the population as to the real seat of sovereignty in the United States. It did not create a Government which the people of the South ever recognized as possessing undeniable marks of supreme authority. In one way or another—which we have no space to discuss here—the original framers left or allowed to be left in a certain obscurity the question, which of the two a citizen was to obey when the State Government said one thing and the Federal Government said another—a doubt which notably found expression in the "Resolutions of '98." They had suffered so much from the absence of any Union that they shrank from making it appear that the Union they had established was as strong as they really meant it to be, and hoped it would some day become. It fell to the lot of the men of 1861 to settle once for all whether the Federal Government was a national Government or not, and they settled it at a cost from which the men of 1787 would undoubtedly have shrunk in dismay. They gave to the Constitution that final sanction without which no government is ever strong, or can ever command general obedience—the sanction, namely, which comes from the knowledge that it has irresistible physical force at its back. There was always from 1787 down to 1861 the greatest diversity of opinion both at the North and at the South as to how much force the Constitution had at its back, and the doubt was a very serious hindrance to its successful working, and produced every week the most scandalous anomalies in various parts of the country. The men who revised the Constitution in 1863-5, and who have given it to us in a shape which will probably undergo no great change as long as the social organization continues what it is at present, did not hesitate to ask the people to say whether the Federal Government had that final sanction without which no government, however deftly framed on paper, can properly be considered a government at all. They got the answer they expected and desired, but it required enormous wisdom and courage to ask the question boldly and to turn the answer to its proper account.

In view of all this, it seems to us as if a very large part of whatever fame the construction of the Federal Government reflects on the American people is due to those who gave the organic law its final revision; and we think it by no means unlikely that those who celebrate the next centennial of the Constitution will be disposed to put the date in 1865, rather than in 1787, or will at all events hesitate between the two years.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The financial situation at the present time is the most curious, and perhaps the most serious one, short of absolute panic, that the present generation has witnessed. There is a most painful constriction in the money market at a time when confessedly we have more money in circulation than ever before, and when prices of commodities and securities are and have long been on a very low plane. The stringency in money is most seriously felt in mercantile circles, although this is not so readily seen as in the stock and produce exchanges. There has been an occasional relaxation of the hardness, following gold importations and Treasury disbursements, but the tendency has been towards harder and harder conditions for nearly three months. Unless relief is had soon, and in much larger degree than heretofore, very grave consequences are to be apprehended. The condition we have described is not peculiar to Wall Street. In fact, Wall Street is merely the place where it is easiest to take the temperature of the country. If money is wanted to move the cotton crop in Texas, for example, Wall Street will be applied to first. If Wall Street cannot respond, the inability to do so will be felt more painfully in Texas than here; but Wall Street will be the place to gauge the intensity of the want in Texas. And so of any other wants of any magnitude in any part of the country. It is common to think and speak of Wall Street as identical with the Stock Exchange, because the Stock Exchange can be seen and heard daily, whereas the enormously greater transactions representing the exchange of commodities, the bona-fide trade of the country, are not seen at all except by the few who study the bank clearings.

What has brought on this unexpected and anomalous state of monetary stringency? It is acknowledged that we have upwards of $70,000,000 more money in circulation than we had one year ago, and yet, when we had $70,000,000 less, there was no stringency at all. If we go back another year, to the summer of 1885, we find that there was an unused surplus of nearly $70,000,000 lying in Wall Street, which could not be loaned at all. It appears, therefore, that within two years there has been brought into requisition and use no less than $140,000,000, one half of which is the "mobilization" of money in existence but not in use in 1885, and the other half an addition to the circulating medium.

It cannot be said that speculation has brought on the stringency, because there has been less of this than usual. So far as Stock Exchange securities are concerned, there has seldom been a season of such remarkable dulness. Stock brokers have not been making office expenses for a long time. The course of the market has been rather downward than upward, and it is well known that a declining market calls for less and less money. The business of the Exchange has been mostly in the hands of room traders, whose operations offset each other and affect the mercantile business of the country not at all. There was some speculation in wheat and coffee in the early summer, but this came to a speedy and disastrous end. The later one in California was strictly local, although it led to some transfer of funds from the East to San Francisco. Speculation in general merchandise has seldom been at so low an ebb as during the present year.

But what about the speculation in real estate? This, too, has been mainly local. That is, it has been confined to the West and Southwest, and not uniformly distributed even in those sections. It has been a town-lot speculation. Farming lands have not been the subject of speculation more than usual. Undoubtedly

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this town-lot speculation has contributed something to the stringency in money, for if a bank lends half of its money to such speculators, and they, although redepositing in the bank, keep it circulating among themselves, it has so much less to lend to merchants and manufacturers. But the rage of real-estate speculation has scarcely touched the Eastern States, where the major part of the loanable capital of the country is found, nor has it been at all pronounced in the Western cities of the first class.

The question recurs, Where has all the money gone to? What has become of the $140,000,000 of new or newly mobilized circulation that has found employment within two years? If it has not been absorbed in high prices of commodities, as it certainly has not been, where is it to be found? Mostly, we think, in the natural expansion of healthy trade which has succeeded the reaction of 1882, 1883, and 1884. The "good times" which began in 1879 culminated about the time that President Garfield was assassinated in 1881, but the reaction that then set in did not reach its maximum until the Grant & Ward failure three years later. A year or two of liquidation and languor succeeded, and then better days began to appear. The first sign of betterment was the gradual clearing away of the great surplus fund in the New York banks already referred to. This was the proof that capital could once more be profitably employed. The improvement in trade led to the resumption of railway building on a pretty large scale, but these enterprises have for the most part been undertaken by old companies, possessing sufficient capital to tide them over the period of infancy and small earnings, and not, as in former periods, by private adventurers. None the less do they call for money. They make drafts upon Wall Street just as the same enterprises would in the hands of "impecunious devils." But the difference between the two is very great. It is quite certain that the money thus borrowed by the Atchison, the Northwestern, the Burlington, and other old companies will pay the stipulated interest, and that there will be no list of bankruptcies following, like those which strewed the country after 1873.

We may, therefore, class these enterprises as a part of the general and healthy growth of business which has drained out the idle funds that accumulated in all the business centres in 1884, and has called for and obtained fresh supplies of an equal or greater amount. At this juncture a new competitor for money comes into the field, viz., the United States Treasury. The payable part of the public debt having been cleared off, and the revenue laws remaining unchanged, there is a public income without a corresponding outgo. Unlike other civilized States, we have no means of keeping public moneys in touch with commercial interests. What is collected in the way of taxes does not go into a Bank of England, or of France, or of Germany, to be used when wanted by the Government and meanwhile by solvent borrowers, but becomes a useless and blighting hoard, which the Secretary struggles fitfully and with limited authority to get rid of. Immediately that this condition supervenes, all eyes are fixed upon the public hoard to see whether it grows larger or not. Very few are able to tell by watching whether it increases or decreases, but everybody takes alarm more or less. Any tightness produced by the Treasury is reproduced in a hundred other places. "We have got plenty of money," remarked the president of one of our large trust companies the other day, "and we intend to keep it; we don't know what the Secretary is going to do, but we mean to be on the safe side." The situation is such that the Treasury is able to produce and must produce a reflex stringency in the money market even when it does not directly cause it, since it works upon the apprehensions of other custodians of large sums. It provokes hoarding even when it does not itself hoard. How far this private hoarding has been carried it is impossible to say, but knowing as we do particular cases of such hoarding, we assume that there are many others. It is customary in ordinary times for the trust companies to keep all their money in the Clearing-house banks. At the present juncture, however, they keep what they consider an adequate emergency fund in greenbacks in their own vaults. Probably other institutions and houses that have large demand liabilities do the same.

Now the question arises, What can and what ought the Treasury to do? The safe rule in ordinary times is for the public authorities to let the money market alone. We would apply this rule to all cases where the Treasury itself has not been instrumental in producing an abnormal and artificial condition. That it has contributed to bring about such a condition at the present time is hardly open to dispute. That Congress is primarily to blame is certainly not open to dispute, but, as the Boston *Herald* very justly remarks, when the President undertook to manage things without calling Congress in extra session, he assumed the responsibility for any mischance resulting from his own lack of power. A panic and crash during the interval would be visited upon the Administration. No attempt to shift the responsibility upon Congress would avail, because Congress cannot act until it is convened by law or proclamation.

Neither Congress nor the Executive can get rid of surplus money without applying it in some way upon the public debt, principal, interest, or both. The purchase of bonds has been hitherto confined to the 4½ per cents. Why should not the 4s be included in the Secretary's plans? Why not broaden the basis by taking in the $738,000,000 of this class of securities? Although the premium to be paid for the 4s is much larger than for the 4½s, the saving to the Government is by far larger. A 4 per cent. bond for $1,000 running twenty years involves the payment of $1,800 principal and interest. If bought now at say 126, there is a saving of $540. A purchase of 4½s of the same amount at 108 saves only $100. If there is some danger of demagogic attacks upon the Administration for paying large premiums to bondholders, that risk is much less than the risk of a financial crisis. All the blatherskites of finance heretofore have bent their artillery upon the "great surplus" in the Treasury, insisting that it should be paid out. It is hardly likely that they will change their line of attack as they would have to do in order to assail the Admininistration for buying bonds at a premium of 8 or of 26. We think that the basis of bond purchases should be broadened at once to the full amount of the bonded debt, which is upwards of $1,000,000,000. If the Secretary should fix a reasonable price for each description of bonds, and offer to take all that are offered, up to the limit of his necessary working balance, he would assuredly not be liable to censure. Nor would he be responsible in that case for any subsequent disaster to commercial interests.

CONCERNING HIGGINS.

An occasional correspondent writes to us from Washington what he believes to be the reasons why Eugene Higgins is retained in office, notwithstanding the disgrace and shame that he has brought and is daily bringing upon the Administration and the cause of civil-service reform and decent politics, which the Administration is believed to be sincerely desirous to promote. In this letter, which comes from a highly respectable and intelligent quarter, although not an Administration quarter, "Higgins's bad reputation," we are told, "is based entirely on acts done before his appointment. It might have afforded a sound reason for not appointing him, but it cannot be made a valid basis for his removal, after having been more than two years in office, unless supplemented by subsequent misconduct. The past was wiped out when he was appointed." We cannot allow that baptism and the remission of sins belong to the political power, but in any case repentance should go before absolution. It is carrying the doctrine of "vindication" pretty far if not only an election by the people, but an appointment by the President or Secretary of the Treasury, can "wipe out the past." When Mr. Blaine, as Speaker of the House of Representatives, was accused of trafficking his influence and his rulings for pecuniary favors, it was claimed that his subsequent election to the Senate wiped out the past and made him over as good as new. But the people of the United States did not so regard it. Nor would his election to the Presidency have wiped it out. Nor would anything under heaven have that effect, for the simple reason that nothing under heaven makes the past different from what it is.

If there was a sound reason for not appointing Higgins in the first place, to wit, his bad reputation, this was not only a valid basis for his removal as soon as it was discovered, but has been a continuing valid basis ever since, and, we may say, a growing one. For it is evident that one bad reputation does more harm to the Administration than ten good ones can repair. The public have a right to expect good ones everywhere. The public offices are for the public good. When the people find the offices filled and administered on this principle, they get only what they bargained for and what they pay for. They are not beholden to anybody for this. They are not bound to be thankful for it, although they usually are so. When they get something quite different from what they were promised and had a right to expect, even

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though this is in only a few places, or in one single place, they have a right to complain, they always do complain, and we hope they always will. All attempts to offset a bad appointment with a good one or any number of good ones will be treated by them with indignant scorn. A good reputation is made not by a *majority* of good acts, but by *uniformity* of them. When Higgins was first appointed, a distinguished Republican politician in this city said: "That act will destroy the Cleveland Administration." "Why do you think so?" asked his interlocutor. "Because it takes away the moral superiority that carried the election," was the answer. This may be an exaggerated view, but it contains the germ of an important truth.

Prior to the election of 1884 it was one of the common jests of the Republican politicians, when a particularly bad nomination or platform was made, or a bad bill passed by their side, that probably the other side would "help them out." The meaning of this was, that the Democrats would be pretty sure to commit some greater blunder, and that the people would put up with the Republican bad thing in order to avoid the Democratic worse thing. This rule "helped out" so many times that finally they became reckless enough to nominate Blaine for President. The Democrats forgot their rôle that time. They did not help the Republicans out, but the people helped them out in a different sense, and they remain out yet. There are not wanting signs that the Republicans are going to take up the rôle of helping out, by doing or threatening to do things so much worse than keeping the Baltimore gang in office that the people will find themselves better able to stomach Higgins & Co. than the plans offered by the other side. Insults to the Chief Magistrate of the nation for his opposition to pension profligacy, for example, may countervail and overpower the just indignation which attends the distribution of offices in Maryland. The renomination of Blaine would certainly do so. But banking on the blunders of your adversary is very bad politics. The Republicans, after all is said, are more experienced and capable political managers than the Democrats, and in any controversy that is to be won by wits alone, they will in the long run outwit their adversaries. The Democratic party cannot possibly be the smarter of the two, but it may be the better. If it cannot be the better, and distinctly so, it will go out of power in the course of a very few years.

The plea now put in that Higgins is a good clerk and attends to his duties well, and that he has no real power, is not calculated to make any impression on the public mind, for two reasons. In the first place, the country is full of men, of Democrats if you please, of good reputation, who could also fill the place and perform the duties satisfactorily. If the office is not one of much responsibility, the field of choice is by so much the wider. Again, nobody is bound to accept the statement that Higgins performs his duties well, because the witnesses are under suspicion. The only persons having the opportunity to judge are interested to vindicate their own choice of him and their retention of him in the face of much remonstrance and obloquy. We can cite at least one instance where he performed his duties so extremely ill that a well-ordered Administration would have dismissed him at once. We refer to his suppression of Secretary Manning's telegram to Appraiser Coombs. But, of course, the public have little means of judging of these things. Nor do these things much concern them.

EUROPE IN SUSPENSE.

PARIS, September 8, 1887.

NEVER, since I have been an observer of European politics, do I remember a time when the mutual relations of the great Powers have been, I will not say so unsatisfactory, but marked by so much distrust and uneasiness. I will not speak here of the relations between France and Germany: the Schnaebelé incident is still fresh in everybody's mind, and everybody knows that last spring a war was almost imminent; if it had not been for the energetic action of the President of the Republic and of the group of republicans who go under the name of Opportunists, and who determined to exclude Gen. Boulanger from the Cabinet, war was almost certain. Nor will I speak of the new attitude assumed by the German Government in Alsace-Lorraine, and of the measures adopted in these provinces since the last elections took place; without questioning the right of the German Government, it is enough to say that this new attitude creates a state of things which is a permanent danger.

If I examine the relations of France and England, I am obliged to confess that they are far from satisfactory. The time of the cordial alliance is past; the necessity of having a good understanding with our neighbors across the channel is no longer felt as it was once by the Government of Louis Philippe and by Napoleon III. By a curious coincidence, the French and English have never been socially so united and politically so independent. Paris receives every day hundreds of Englishmen; you can see English bars in every street of the quarter of the Madeleine and of the Champs Élysées; all our young men have learned the jargon of the turf; we have English tailors for men and for women; our worst novels have as many readers in London as they have in France; we exchange fashions, plays, books, reviews, newspapers. But this permanent social fusion has no effect on the political interests of the two countries. If you wish to have a proof of it, look at the history of the late Anglo-Turkish Convention, prepared by Sir Drummond Wolff, and rejected by the Porte. There never was a more extraordinary diplomatic incident. Sir Drummond Wolff was not a diplomat *de la carrière*, as we say—he had not been bred in the art of concealing artfully facts behind words; he had in this convention boldly and openly claimed for England the right, after she had evacuated the valley of the Nile, to reoccupy it in case of need and in certain emergencies affecting the material order and financial prosperity of Egypt. It was hardly necessary to put such a clause in the convention, as circumstances which would make an occupation of Egypt imperative cannot well be defined beforehand. Europe did not object to the existing occupation, though some of the Powers did not like it. Europe, in all probability, would not object any more to a reoccupation in a certain number of years, if this reoccupation seemed a necessity. "Il y a des choses," says Beaumarchais, "qu'il ne faut pas se dire à soi-même." *A fortiori*, you must not tell them to others. To assume in a convention a positive right of occupation at any time was to invade the rights of sovereignty of the Porte—rights which are still nominally recognized, and which form the basis of all conventions with the Porte.

M. de Montebello, the French Ambassador at Constantinople, had a conversation on the subject with the Sultan, and, following the instructions of his Government, represented to him that France could not accept the idea of a diminution, a division of his own sovereignty with England. The Sultan was, at the time, on the point of signing the convention; he was evidently moved by the argumentation of the French Ambassador, and was also reassured against the consequences of a rupture with England, when the French Ambassador went so far as to say that France would guarantee the Porte, at any risk and any price, against the selfish and ambitious designs of England. This was very strong language—so strong that in other times it would have seemed antecedent to open hostilities. The Sultan was so much impressed by it that he asked the French Ambassador: "Will you not let my first dragoman make a written note of what you have just said to me?" The French Ambassador could not well refuse; but the note had no official character. How it came into the hands of Sir Drummond Wolff, almost immediately, it is not for me to say, but those who are familiar with the ways of Constantinople will not be surprised at it. What is more surprising is that this informal note, this résumé of a conversation, made, not by the French Ambassador, nor revised or approved by him, found its way, with its strong, perhaps exaggerated, expressions, into a Blue Book presented to the English Parliament. Little has been said about this note in the English or French press; its gravity was such that it was felt imprudent to discuss it. At the same time, the note throws a great light on the actual relations of France and England, which are no longer what they used to be. England, since the rejection of the convention, simply maintains her position in Egypt; but the time will come when a diplomatic solution of the Egyptian problem will become necessary, and we do not see clearly what this solution will be.

If we look on the European continent, we find that the mutual relations of the three great empires are suffering a slow and gradual change. It seemed at one time as if this alliance of empires was a solid foundation of peace which could not be shaken; it was rendered apparent to the world by solemn and annual interviews. Everybody feels now that there is something rotten in the great alliance, though few know exactly where the rottenness lies. Are we to believe that the policy of semi-abdication which Austria has followed since the creation of a new German empire is on the point of coming to an end, that Austria will again be tempted to have a will of her own? Her statesmen have wisely united their action with the action of Germany for eighteen years; the Emperor has shown himself devoid of all petty feelings of vanity: he has consulted the interests of his numerous peoples and the interests of peace, instead of obeying his pride. But it was always felt by him, as well as by the greater part of his subjects, that he could not renounce one thing, which was the historical mission of Austria in the valley of the Danube and in the Peninsula of the Balkans; that his duties to Germany would cease if Germany sacrificed the interests of Austria to the interests of Russia.

Germany may well say that, so far, she has not sacrificed her Austrian ally; that she has allowed Austria to occupy Herzegovina and Bosnia, and that no limit has been fixed to this occupation, which has already assumed the character of an annexation. Germany may say, also, that Russia has not gained much in the Peninsula of the Balkans, and, in fact, we hear Russia complaining every day of the Treaty of Berlin. The

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state of Bulgaria shows how difficult it has become to satisfy the feeling of Russia. Prince Alexander of Battenberg incurred the disgrace of the Emperor Alexander and left the country. After a long period of suspense, the Bulgarians have elected a new sovereign in the person of Prince Ferdinand of Coburg. Russia will not recognize him, and invites the Porte to join in her protest. Austria dares not give an open support to Prince Ferdinand, but evidently she would be satisfied with his becoming the sovereign of Bulgaria. A sister of Prince Ferdinand is married to the Archduke Joseph, the commander of the Hungarian Army. The father of Prince Ferdinand was, in his lifetime, a general in the Austrian Army, his mother, Princess Clementine, lives chiefly at Ebenthal, near Vienna. The choice of Prince Ferdinand has not satisfied Russia, and Prince Bismarck has immediately espoused the cause of Russia in this case: the strongest attacks on the young Prince have been made in Berlin. The situation of the Bulgarians is truly painful: they cannot obtain a ruler, meeting everywhere the resistance of Russia; they have had no government for two years, and Russia, though she hinders everything, proposes nothing.

This situation is very critical. England and Italy are inclined to take the part of Austria; France and Germany are courting Russia and trying to satisfy her, not because they care for Bulgaria, but because they are afraid of each other. The situation is such that not a single great Power knows exactly where she is going, who will be her friends to-morrow, who will be her enemies. Nobody wishes for war, and everybody feels that an incident may bring it about. The nations are living in darkness, and their rulers in fear. If you add to the uncertainty created by an absolute contempt for written treaties, by a complete disregard of old traditions, the uncertainty which arises from the great age of the Emperor of Germany, of his Chancellor, of the President of the French Republic, by the state of health of the Crown Prince of Germany, by the state of parties in England and in France, by the obscurity of the Russian policy, you must acknowledge that Europe, though she is now at peace, is in the most unstable equilibrium. The system of armed peace is becoming an almost insupportable burden for all nations; the neutrals are all alarmed, and take expensive precautions for their neutrality. The most dangerous illusions fill all minds: the French republicans, and even the French Communists, trust in the friendship of autocratic Russia; the Panslavists think that they can dispense with the culture of the Occident, and bring to the world a new ideal of right and of civilization. The Italians, instead of enjoying their new unity, and developing all the resources of their admirable country, have dreams of distant and of near conquests. A spirit of domination and of ambition has entered all souls: the people of the Peninsula of the Balkans, instead of forming a confederacy, meditate mutual absorption. The gates of the temple of Janus are still shut, but it is not because we love peace; it is because no nation can trust another, no durable alliances can be made, no common action can be prepared; because everybody feels that in the present condition of Europe the consequences of a great commotion can neither be foreseen nor limited.

THE ECLIPSE EXPEDITION IN JAPAN.

SHIRAKAWA, Japan, August 20, 1887.

THE important day has come and gone—the eclipse is over, and the old castle, selected by Prof. Todd for the station, will again be left to its clematis and ivy, its lizards and crows; while the unwonted activity which has centred here for the past few weeks will depart with the instruments and the white tents. Sixteen thousand miles of continent and ocean traversed for three wonderful minutes, and unremitting labor during every clear night, and on all days of whatever sort, all for that little time, which may be cloudy or not at its own sweet will. Such are the chances of an astronomer's life, but glorious his compensations when nature is kind.

The principal instrument used on this occasion for observing the eclipse was the photoheliograph, a form first devised by the late Prof. Winlock, and independently by Capt. Laussedat of France. It consists of a heliostat mounted upon a pier, the large stone for which was taken from the old castle wall only a few feet away. The heliostat has an unsilvered mirror set at such an angle that it shall reflect the sun's rays through a lens, and thence through a tube nearly forty feet long, into the dark-room or photograph house. The tube was in this case covered by a sort of roof and sides of bark to prevent its accumulating heat from the sun's rays, and thus disturbing the light in its passage. The mirror is a piece of plate-glass, polished with as great accuracy to a plane surface as the finest lens to a curved one, and it is left unsilvered because all of the sun's rays reflected into the dark-room would be too intense for the purpose. It is made to revolve upon an inclined axis in the same direction as the sun moves—from east to west, so that the direction of the reflected rays remains constantly unchanged. The actinic, or photographic rays, coming to a focus at a different distance from the ordinary optical rays by which objects are seen, the lens is corrected for the former. This instrument has never been used before to photograph an eclipse, and it was brought at this time for that purpose in order to obtain a more correct knowledge of the relative positions of the centres of the sun and moon than could be gained by observing merely the contacts.

The photographs of the partial phases are upon plates seven inches square, and it was intended to take fifty before totality and fifty after, while the corona photographed by this instrument would be given on a larger scale than ever before. The image, being formed nearly forty feet from the object-glass, makes the sun's diameter about 4½ inches, on plates themselves 17x20. Shortly before totality the mirror is exchanged for one which is silvered, with a surface as accurately figured and polished as the first one, all of the rapidly fading light being now required in the dark-room.

In order to manage the photoheliograph with proper precision, the services of six persons are ordinarily required. These should be the astronomer-in-charge, who makes the exposures at the proper moments, and the necessary records; the assistant astronomer, stationed at the heliostat, whose duty is to see that the sun's rays are constantly reflected in the proper direction from the mirror; and a photographer, with three assistants, to attend to the necessary manipulation of the sensitive plates. The services of an assistant astronomer could be dispensed with if the screws by which the heliostat is adjusted could be brought under the control of the chief astronomer in the photograph house. Chief-Engineer Pemberton, U. S. N., who was detailed with Lieut. Southerland from the Asiatic squadron to accompany the eclipse expedition, was occupied a large part of the time in the practical working out and applying this device, which was found to work admirably. This is so important an addition to the apparatus as heretofore operated, that it may well come into use on future occasions where the instrument is employed.

Prof. Todd placed the immediate direction of the photographic operations in charge of Mr. R. Hitchcock of the Smithsonian Institution, now teaching in Osaka. He was ably assisted by Mr. K. Ogawa of Tokio and Miss Y. May King, M. D., a young Chinese lady who has recently graduated brilliantly in medicine in New York, and whose fine work at the Smithsonian with M. Smillie in microscopic photography has received much attention. Nothing was spared to make the photographic outfit as complete and thorough as possible, and a number of experimental investigations were undertaken for the solution of problems occurring for the first time in eclipse photography.

In order that pictures shall be available for scientific purposes of precision, it is necessary that some line whose exact direction and position are known shall appear upon each photograph; a small plumb-line of fine gold wire is therefore suspended in front of the sensitive plate. When the exposing slide is drawn and the sun shines on it, this line appears with great definiteness upon every picture of the sun which is made. When the eclipse has advanced to such a stage that the crescent is very slender, its light is not enough to show this line, and it was found necessary to devise some means of making it sufficiently luminous to show upon the plate. This was not an easy matter to accomplish. The outer light would not be strong enough to be used on account of the near approach of totality; and artificial light has not sufficient actinic effect to impress itself on the plate, except with a longer exposure than could be given to it at that varying phase when the exposures should follow each other in the most rapid succession. The problem was finally solved by throwing two rays or pencils of light upon the top and bottom of the plumb line, coming directly from a kerosene lamp placed upon a small elevator, to be raised and lowered by the hand immediately after the crescent had been exposed—thus giving virtually two exposures to each plate, and showing the plumb line as a delicate line of light, both above and below the crescent itself.

It is generally recognized that wet plates give the best results in the photography of astronomical phenomena, the only objection to them being that they cannot be manipulated as rapidly as required in eclipse photography. But it was considered inadvisable to employ the dry plates now so much used, on account of the high temperature, and experiments were therefore tried of different methods of preserving the sensitive film of wet plates prepared by the ordinary process. The results were wholly successful, even beyond expectation, and several sets of plates were prepared some hours before the eclipse began. Although it was intended that the preservative should do its work for four or five hours only, a number of plates were exposed in the photoheliograph on the day following the eclipse, and were found to give perfect sun-pictures although taken out of the sensitive bath more than twenty-four hours before they were exposed. These results are of great importance in connection with similar work in the future.

The Amherst College observatory furnished two of its object-glasses—of about seven-inch aperture—for this eclipse, one of which was used here and the other by Prof. C. A. Young at his station near Moscow. Prof. Pickering of Harvard College prepared and sent the sensitive dry-plates exactly alike for both, so that the results from the work at the two stations should be strictly comparable. The lens was here mounted in a temporary tube, and the instrument—called a coronagraph—was placed in charge of Lieut. Southerland, U. S. N., to operate during totality. This is the only eclipse occurring in recent years whose path has so traversed the earth that two civilized countries were near the extreme ends of the line of totality; and the same instruments

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and dry-plates being used both in Japan and Russia, the results of the observations were expected to be of particular value, as showing any rapid changes in the corona.

A single camera, with a four-inch lens of short focus, was also provided by Prof. Pickering for special coronal research, which was operated by Dr. D. B. McCartee, and two five-inch lenses for a double camera, of which Dr. Ames, U. S. N., had charge. In addition, some small holders, with sensitized plates, especially prepared for determining the actinic effect of the coronal light, were provided, the manipulation of which was in the hands of the American Consul-General, Mr. Greathouse of Yokohama.

A small four-inch telescope, lent by the Japanese Naval Observatory, was intended to be used by Dr. Holland, the naturalist, and party, in sketching the complexity of detail usually to be found in the corona near the sun's poles. Another telescope of similar dimensions was ready for use in searching for intra-mercurial planets. During totality Mrs. Hitchcock made one or two exposures with a camera, using very sensitive plates, which may have some bearing on the actinic power of light during total eclipses. Mr. K. Aoinc, a student of practical astronomy at the Imperial University in Tokio, was stationed on a corner of the castle wall to watch, if possible, the approach of the lunar shadow over the paddy-fields towards the northwest, and to make as precise observations as possible of the number, size, velocity, and direction of motion of the diffraction shadow-bands seen on recent eclipses flitting across the landscape. He was also to note the possible visibility of the corona both before and after the total phase.

It was very pleasant to me that I also should be assigned a part to perform on the important day, and I became much interested in preparing to sketch the faint outer corona, with its long equatorial streamers. The first observation of this sort was attempted by Prof. Newcomb at Des Moines in 1869, and again—this time with complete success—at Separation, Wyoming, in 1878. It was tried by Mr. Lockyer at Grenada on the occasion of the eclipse a year ago, but without results, owing to clouds. These streamers are so faint that the eye, if exposed to the full radiance of the corona, becomes so dazzled that it is unable to discern them. Prof. Newcomb's very simple device consists of an occulting disk set up at a distance of about sixty feet from the eye, and of such size as to cover not only the totally eclipsed sun, but also the brighter rays of the inner corona. It was thus found that by neglecting that portion of the corona which numerous observers are always sure to depict, its enormous extension to a distance of several solar diameters in both directions was readily detected. This is regarded by Mr. Lockyer as perhaps the most important observation of a total eclipse which can be made without instrumental aid.

In addition to the work and instruments already mentioned, a series of meteorological observations were made by Mr. M. Nakagawa, Director of the Tokio Observatory, and his assistant, Mr. Shirai, with a full set of instruments for the purpose. Several days before the eclipse, observations were begun hourly of the temperature, air-pressure, velocity, and direction of the wind, and other meteorological elements. During the immediate period of the eclipse itself, all these data were recorded with precision every five minutes. These observations were made on a plan precisely similar to that recommended by the Congress of European Meteorologists, who devised a general scheme for such observations to be made on the occasion of this same eclipse in central and eastern Russia.

Prof. Todd also prepared instructions relating to two distinct classes of observations, which he had translated into Japanese, with reference to securing the coöperation of volunteer observers scattered over every part of Japan which would be covered by the lunar shadow. About forty towns, situated just inside of the north and south limits of the total eclipse, received instructions relating to observing the element of the simple duration of totality. A large number of such observations would furnish valuable data with regard to the position and direction of motion of the moon's shadow across this part of the earth. At more than fifty places situated near the central line of the eclipse, instructions were sent for making pencil and other sketches of the outlines of the corona. In the printing and distribution of these instructions, Prof. Todd had the coöperation of the *Mombusho*, or Japanese Department of Education, and of the Geographical Bureau of the Department of the Interior.

Since the arrival of the party in Shirakawa there had been one long rain, lasting three or four days. With this exception the eclipse could have been observed with more or less success on nearly every afternoon. The prevailing winds were southwest, the mornings inclining towards dampness and cloudiness, with hot and clear afternoons. A strong shock of earthquake, occurring about a week before, had seemed to change the normal conditions of the climate. The heat increased, the breezes died away entirely or blew fitfully from the north or the east for a few moments, and the foggy mornings turned early into scorching sunshine. On the morning of the eclipse day Nasusan, the volcano towards the west, was observed to be unsually active, sending up clouds of white steam from one or two apparently new fissures in its sides. The sky was almost entirely clear, and the heat was well-nigh stifling. During the morning a few white clouds flitted across the sky, but everything seemed favorable for success in the afternoon. About one o'clock a small white cloud was noticed, lying close to the summits of the mountains, and before two this had spread upward like an ominous white finger, reaching the zenith. Then a black cloud arose in the east and another in the south. The distant muttering of thunder was heard, and all the clouds, as if in a conspiracy of opposition, joined their forces against the fair blue, which seemed trying to maintain itself. The beginning of the eclipse was entirely hidden, but, shortly after, the stout crescent of the sun shone through a rift in the clouds, and a few photographs were taken. The motion of the clouds was so slow as to be entirely unnoticeable—they seemed merely to accumulate, pile on pile of varying shades of gray, while one clear spot continued in the north most exasperatingly, just beyond any possibility of use. The dread of failure at totality spread among the guests who were watching from the castle, while the pain and tension of expectancy held every one in silence. The astronomer-in-chief alone was calm and philosophic, taking advantage of every possible break in the clouds to catch the narrowing crescent. The darkness increased and became almost sepulchral; the bit of blue above turned steely gray, and it became evident that no drawing of any part of the corona could be made. Totality was announced, and, by two or three jerks, apparently, the darkness fell. The outlines of the mountains and rice-fields grew indistinguishable, the clouds turned almost black, and thunder rolled all about and above. In the southeast was a streak of strange, sulphurous yellow, which seemed to give out the only light in the world, except the feeble glimmer of a few lanterns in the town below. A weird and breathless silence came over everything, and for three minutes it seemed that the world must be dead and cold, and turned to ashes. Suddenly a tiny flash of light fell like an instantaneous arrow from the clouds, and all nature came to life. A small rift showed the tiny crescent for an instant, and then the clouds rolled over again heavily, and nothing remained of the eclipse which we could see except a gradually increasing light. The visitors moved away quietly, and for the first time the whole extent of the disappointment came over the observing party.

Philosophy must needs be called strongly into requisition where nothing more tangible than the powers of the air can be held responsible for disaster, and an astronomer is at times a hero. The results of this trip are by no means valueless, but with a clear sky they should have become most especially valuable. To-day the sun is shining heartlessly, the insects are chirping in the grass, and all nature smiles.

MABEL LOOMIS TODD.

A WEEK IN ALASKA.

PORTLAND, Oregon, September 5.

IF Long Island Sound could be continued for about a thousand miles, past the coasts of Maine, Newfoundland, and Labrador, as far as the entrance to Hudson's Bay, so that tourists might go all the way on fast river-steamers, with staterooms on the main deck, and without the slightest risk of sea-sickness; and if this hypothetic "Long Island" could be broken up into several thousand, which, instead of being flat and sandy, were covered with forests of almost tropical luxuriance, and with mountains of an infinite variety of shape, continually increasing in altitude until they culminated in two snow peaks higher than Mont Blanc, outrunners of the third highest mountain range in the world, and sending clear down and into the salt water numerous glaciers, compared with which those in Switzerland are mere pigmies—if, in other words, the strip of coast which extends from Tacoma, W. T., to Glacier Bay in Alaska could be transferred to the Atlantic side, it is safe to say that at least a score of large steamers, crowded with passengers, would be going up and down this salt-water river all summer long. The Atlantic Coast people, however, even if they possessed this scenic bonanza, would hardly be able to enjoy it comfortably, on account of the icy ocean current which sweeps down Davis Strait and chills and befogs Labrador and Newfoundland even in summer. Most persons in the East seem to imagine that Alaska must be in a similar, if not a worse, predicament; but they reckon without the warm Japan current which does for southern Alaska what the Gulf Stream does for the British Islands. Northwestern Alaska, indeed, shares with northern Siberia the honor of having the coldest climate in the world; but the southeastern portion of the coast, as far north as Sitka, has a climate not unlike that of Maine, though Sitka is some fifteen degrees of latitude north of Portland, Me. It must be borne in mind how vast a country Alaska is—as large, one writer has calculated, as the original thirteen States. A still more graphic way of realizing its extent is by noting that from California it is as far to the western extremity of Alaska as it is to New York; so that the central city of the United States is not Omaha or St. Paul, but San Francisco!

Fifty years hence, in my humble opinion, San Francisco, or the then metropolis of the Pacific Coast, will be not only geographically but in many other ways the centre of American life. The agricultural, scenic, climatic, and hygienic superiority of the Western to the Eastern Coast is too great not to affect the questions of population and civilization. But long before that era Alaska will have universally established its claim to that much-abused phrase "the American Swit-

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zerland"—unless, indeed, the terms should be converted and Switzerland come to be complimented as "the European Alaska." Yearly the number increases of those who ask themselves whether, instead of going to Europe every summer, it would not be worth while to try a Western trip. Before the Yellowstone Park and Alaska were made conveniently accessible, this Western trip could hardly have been recommended as an equivalent for Europe; but now the scales are pretty evenly balanced, and as soon as the St. Elias range shall have been included in the regular round trip, and provided with guides, roads, and hotels, Switzerland will have to "take a back seat"—for St. Elias rises 20,000 feet into the air, and can be seen from base to top, with a snow-and-ice mantle reaching down to the very level of the ocean, while the highest mountain in Switzerland is only 15,784 feet high (to the spectator only about 12,000, as he is already several thousand feet high when he sees it), and has a snow mantle of only about 7,000 feet. Indeed, considering that in the Himalayas and the Andes, the only two ranges that tower above St. Elias, the snow line is as high as 15,000 to 20,000 feet, it would seem that St. Elias must be the most overwhelming *snow* mountain in the world.

Unfortunately, the present Alaskan round trip does not include St. Elias, although the majority of the tourists would gladly risk the chances of sea-sickness by making the additional two hundred miles from Sitka in the open sea. Two mountains of the St. Elias range, with their stupendous glaciers—Fairweather and Crillon, both higher than Mont Blanc—are, however, visible to those who make the present tour; and although, like St. Elias, they are lamentably apt to hide themselves beneath and above clouds, even those who miss this wonderful sight find so much that is unique in the other attractions that no one has ever been known to feel the slightest desire to "get his money back." Were the scenery much less inspiring than it is, yet would the trip be worth making for its hygienic value. Here, for two or three weeks, one can breathe a delicious mixture of ocean and mountain air, the latter just sufficiently impregnated with the fragrance of pine forests to prevent that enervating languor which an exclusive lung-diet of ocean air is apt to breed. As regards the appetite for solid food, its average size may be inferred from the Captain's favorite joke—that, as the provisions are running short, he shall be compelled to take the turbulent outside passage back in order to curb the gastronomic propensities of the passengers. The fare provided on these steamers is about as good as that on the average Atlantic steamers, but the daily salmon and a few other dishes become monotonous, and the passengers look in vain for "local color" in the bill of fare, *i. e.*, for venison and bear steak, wild ducks and geese, salmon-berries, and some of the unusual kinds of fish that haunt these waters. The fault for this omission is laid on the shoulders of the Indians, who are said to be too lazy to hunt and fish for more than they need for themselves daily. But as they willingly work in the mines for $2 a day, it is probable they would gladly hunt and fish for the steamer stewards if enough were offered them. Yet, as just intimated, one needs no such special stimulants for the appetite, and one thing is certain, that the large number of invalids who cross the Atlantic yearly, chiefly to get the benefits of a sea voyage, would do much better to go to Alaska, for there they would be *sure* of gaining in weight daily, owing to the absence of sea-sickness. And another thing in favor of the Alaskan tour is, that one is certain to find pleasant companionship on the *Olympian*. The passengers on Atlantic steamers represent all classes of society, and even of the tourists not all are pleasure-seekers in an æsthetic sense; but of the Alaskan passengers the majority are apt to be persons of refinement and taste, since the only magnet that can draw them there is the hope of enjoying fine scenery.

Most of the tourists, not feeling quite certain whether Alaska will come up to their expectations, go on the elegant new steamer *Olympian*, which is provided with all modern comforts and makes the round trip in twelve days; but not a few regret afterwards that they did not take one of the old freight steamers, *Idaho* or *Ancon*, which require about a week more for the trip, and, as they repeatedly stop a whole day at interesting places, allow the passengers more time to explore the neighborhood, and go fishing, observing the natives, hunting for curios, etc. The *Olympian* makes only six or seven stops in twelve days, remaining from two to six hours at each place; and for almost three days after leaving Victoria she makes no stop at all, thus resembling an ocean steamer—a resemblance made the more suggestive by a series of rocky islands near Victoria that look very much like the coast of Ireland when first approached on the voyage to Liverpool. The regular tourist season extends from the middle of April to the middle of October. Early in the year passengers will see more of the "midnight sun," but in July and August fogs and rain are less common, although even during those months the warm winds blowing inland from the Japanese Current are very apt to condense into clouds and rain—a wise arrangement, which prevents the scenery from becoming monotonous to the tourists; and if any interesting point is thereby missed, there is always a chance of seeing it on the return trip—unless, indeed, the Captain should choose a different channel. There is an endless variety to select from, and the marvel is that any captain or pilot should ever be able to find his way through this labyrinth. For what the milky way is among stars, this island-studded archipelago is among terrestrial water-ways. Capt. Carroll, however, finds his way as unerringly as the salmon which at some seasons splash about the ship, bound for the rivers of the interior. There is not a single light-house, only here and there a rude post. Fortunately the nights never become entirely dark, and even a dense fog does not arrest the steamer's progress, for the pilots have learned, by blowing the steam whistle, to judge by the echo the distance from either shore; and the water is almost invariably so deep that danger is reduced to a minimum.

During our trip, which commenced on August 22, the fog was never dense enough to call for the steam whistle; but the dense smoke, the result of forest fires and "clearings," which had prevented us from enjoying the Columbia River scenery and Mounts Hood and Tacoma, also hid from us the charms of the far-famed Puget Sound region, with its background of Olympian and other snow mountains. Gradually, however, as we passed along British Columbia towards Alaska, the smoke grew less dense and finally disappeared entirely. Isolated columns of smoke were still to be seen frequently in the midst of the primitive forests, indicating Indian camps; but in Alaska, thanks to the frequent rains, forest fires cannot occur—a fact which will console the economically minded for the enormous wastes of timber in Washington Territory and Oregon. The visible wealth of Alaska, as Mr. Hallock remarks, lies in these forests: "There is a supply here of 5,700,000,000 feet at a low estimate, a very large part of which is at once accessible for shipment, as saw-mills and vessels can lie right alongside the timber at tide water all the way up the coast as far as it extends"; and Alaska with its islands is said to have a coast line of 25,000 miles, equal to the circumference of the globe.

Not only has Alaska the third highest mountain range in the world, but if the greatest landscape artist had been consulted, its members could not have been arranged in a manner more continuously impressive to the tourist. Beginning near Victoria with a moderate altitude and mere patches of snow on the sides, they daily grow higher and whiter until the climax is reached in the St. Elias group. When we were northward bound, the smoky atmosphere hid the distant peaks and left the impression that snow was rather scarce for the first three days; but on the return trip a shower had preceded us, clearing away this smoke, revealing snow in abundance, including, about thirty-six hours from Victoria, an undulating range with immense snow fields that would not be without honor even in Switzerland; and this was before Alaska proper had been reached. The whole of the second and third days the passengers could imagine themselves sailing along the Hudson River Highlands or Lorley Rocks on the Rhine; but after that all comparison with Eastern rivers ceased, and the Columbia alone, with its background of snow mountains, afforded approximate terms of comparison. The hour for sleep was postponed as long as possible, from fear of losing some of the grand sights. As one of the passengers remarked, it would be possible to make hundreds of Lake Georges out of this Alaskan salt-water river. The word lake is very appropriate, as the channel continually widens and apparently comes to an end, as in a few places on the Hudson, so that tourists frequently amuse themselves by guessing which way the pilot is going to turn next. In some places the channel is so wide that land disappears on one side; at other times so narrow that a woman could throw a stone on either shore.

Of the abundance and variety of islands which adorn this waterway, only those can form a remote conception who have seen the Thousand Islands of the St. Lawrence. But in Alaska, as one writer has remarked, we see not a thousand islands only, but "a thousand miles of islands," some as large as a State or a European kingdom, others just large enough for a house and garden; while many look as if future generations would inevitably call them "Picnic Islands," from number one to one hundred. Like the mountains that line the shores, all these islands are densely wooded and very few of them are flat. Indeed, a strip of flat land in this part of Alaska is such a curiosity that the tourist's attention is unconsciously attracted by it—reminding one of the young Tyrolean girl's exclamation on entering for the first time the monotonous plain between Munich and Stuttgart: "Oh, mamma, look out of the window. How beautiful!—there is not a mountain in sight!" Bare hillsides are almost equally rare in Alaska till one reaches the glacier regions. Everywhere the forests extend down to the very edge of the water, and during high tide they actually seem to overlap or grow out of the water. Consequently there is no beach, its place being taken at low tide by ten feet or more of rocky wall, adorned with mosses and other vegetable and animal growths, and sometimes almost as brilliantly colored as the walls of the Yellowstone Cañon. The forests above add to this an endless variety of green tints, indicating the different kinds of wood, the age of the trees; or perchance an isolated streak of fresher color betrays the path of an avalanche, which carried away the old trees and made room for a new growth. Some of the mountains are so rocky that they afford insufficient nourishment to the trees, which consequently die after a certain age, their gray, leafless skeletons standing upright among their green neighbors, and suggesting the thought that after all forest fires have their uses as a sort of scavengers. Still, these gray and green forests are less uninviting than those black and green charnel forests in which the fires have done their work in-

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completely; and they are the exception, not the rule, in Alaska.

For the first three days, as already intimated, these aspects of nature were the only new experiences and sights offered to the *Olympian's* passengers, no stops being made after Port Townsend and Victoria till we reached Juneau (the largest town in Alaska), omitting Nanaimo, Tongas, and Wrangel. It is customary to stop at each place of any importance either in going up or returning, the Captain being guided in his decision chiefly by the necessity of passing certain dangerous places when the tide is favorable. The most perilous of these places is Seymour Rapids, some hours north of Nanaimo. As we approached these narrows the water presented a most turbulently fascinating appearance, twirling around furiously in hundreds of little whirlpools, while large portions of the surface appeared to be several feet higher than the adjoining parts, as if a submarine earthquake had raised some places and thus made the water run down hill. The spectacle was as exciting as the Niagara Rapids, and more sublime, because the fact of being on the water, and the knowledge that there were hidden rocks all about, added just that slight suspicion of danger which stimulates the feeling of sublimity. In the narrowest part of the channel a regular waterfall was produced by the headlong plunge of the tide-waters down some rocks near the eastern shore, while the other side was rendered equally dangerous by numerous rocks, thus leaving only a very narrow channel in the middle for the steamer to pass through. The *Idaho* and *Ancon* never attempt this passage while the tide rushes through it like a mountain torrent, but the *Olympian* plunged in boldly. In vain, however, did the engineer strain every muscle of his machinery; for more than an hour the noble steamer, though paddling away at a rate of almost twenty miles an hour, did not move a yard. Here was a lovely situation for timid souls, with plenty of time to speculate on the possibility of the shaft or rudder breaking, and to recall the fact that in this very place two vessels have already come to grief, one at a sacrifice of seventy Chinese lives! But the *Olympian* suddenly made a spurt, and the salt waterfall and the maelstroms were left behind.

On the fourth day we met the *Pinta* in a shallow, quiet bay, and exchanged greetings, mails, and provisions. The *Pinta* is the formidable man-of-war which cruises these waters and keeps the Indians in subjection through the fear of having their villages bombarded. While the brass buttons of the officers exerted their usual magnetic power over the lovely eyes of the young ladies, the other passengers were less romantically employed in watching the jelly-fish which crowded about the steamers, literally by the million. The next incident of importance was our stop at the gold mines opposite Juneau, and subsequently at Juneau itself. Everybody went ashore to see the mines and the quartz-mills, where a hundred or more machines reduce the ore to sand with a most terrific noise. The mine is said to be worth twice the price paid for Alaska, and it is evidently prospering, to judge by the additional buildings now in course of erection. At Juneau, which is a larger place than Sitka, the first thing that strikes the eye is the large number of "drug stores," almost every other building being labelled as such. Can it be that the Indian habit of leaving the heads and tails of salmon to decay in the street, in their part of the village, has such an injurious effect on the health of the Juneauites? or has the fact that the sale of whiskey is forbidden in Alaska a remote bearing on the subject? Certainly neither the whites nor the Indians look unhealthy.

Most of the Indian men were at work in the mines, but the squaws sat in rows on the pier or in front of their houses, offering for sale grass baskets, furs, blankets, small canoes and paddles, totem-poles, wooden spoons, masks, bracelets made of silver dollars, berries, etc. Each squaw seems to have the shrewdness and business instincts of a Jew and a Yankee rolled into one. In their own language they comment freely on the tourists—tit for tat—and appear to find their doings rather ludicrous, which, no doubt, they sometimes are. These squaws have obviously given their husbands elementary lessons in "woman's rights," for the latter never dare to sell anything for a lower price than first asked, and if the wife says No, the bargain comes to naught. The squaws are also allowed to share the labor of the men on the water, and they are experts in paddling their own canoes. Their domestic accomplishments are less admirable. The interior of the houses is as uncleanly as the blankets they wear, and it would not be pleasant to think of entering their huts were it not for the disinfecting smoke which pervades them. With a few exceptions, they have no stoves, the food being cooked over an open fire in the centre of the floor. The smoke seeks to escape through a hole in the roof, but, before escaping, it is utilized for curing strips of salmon that are hung on strings below the hole. In front of the houses other rows of salmon are suspended on sticks to dry in the sun; and before each hut lies a canoe carefully covered with mats, to protect it against the sun.

At Sitka we had an opportunity to see the Indians as influenced by missionary efforts. The Mission School contains over a hundred boys and girls. The girls do the cooking, and the boys are experts in carpentry. Their chairs and bedsteads are very neatly made, and are to be seen in most of the Indian huts. The boys wear a blue uniform, to give them a sort of *esprit de corps;* and the girls appear to give considerable attention to their appearance, especially in the arrangement of the hair. Their gait is very ungraceful, owing, as some say, to the fact that their ancestors spent so much of their time in canoes. Among the half-breeds, and the Indians too, some have considerable beauty of figure and face; and were it not for the large mouth, many more would be pretty. It is impossible to look at these Indians and not come to the conclusion that they are descended from the Japanese. The whole cast of the face is Japanese—the cheeks, the small sparkling black eyes, with their scant lashes and brows, and the complexion, are unmistakably so; and the fact that, not so many years ago, some Japanese mariners were shipwrecked on the Alaskan coast, makes the Japanese origin of the American Indian all the more probable. Another Japanese trait of these Indians is their bright intelligence and their eagerness to adopt the customs of the white man. They learn very readily, and some of the pupils recited and prayed in English, while several squaws and Indian men prayed in their own guttural language. The singing of these children did not differ much in quality of tone or intonation from that in our primary schools.

Besides these Indians, there is little of interest in Sitka itself besides the old Russian castle and the Greek church, in which it is odd to see pictures of saints in these out-of-the-way regions. The church itself does not deserve the amount of attention it has received, except from an antiquarian point of view; but the charms of Sitka harbor have hardly been exaggerated even by those who compare it to the Gulf of Naples. The arrival of the *Olympian* is always a great event for the Sitkans, natives and whites, who assemble on the wharf to greet her arrival and cheer her departure; and the local weekly paper, the *Alaskan*, was enterprising enough to get out an extra in a couple of hours with the passenger list; and this edition the young ladies bought by the dozen and mailed to their friends as conclusive evidence that they had been so near the north pole.

In speaking of Sitka before Glacier Bay I have followed the map rather than the steamer's course; for Sitka is already some distance on the home stretch, and before arriving there the steamers visit Lynn Canal, which leads up to the Chilcat country, famous for its furs, blankets, salmon canneries, and glaciers; and then Glacier Bay, which runs almost parallel to Lynn Canal, and, with the Muir Glacier, represents the climax of the present Alaskan tour. Lynn Canal contains a large number of glaciers, each of which would make the fortune of a village and a dozen hotels in Switzerland, and conspicuous among them are the magnificent Eagle and Davidson Glaciers, which would be the "lions" of southern Alaska were they not slightly surpassed in grandeur by the Muir Glacier, which, Jumbo-like, therefore gets all the attention of the visitors. As the steamer enters Lynn and Glacier Bays the scenery becomes truly Arctic, as well as the climate, and overcoats are in demand. Vast snow fields are visible in every direction, and the frozen rivers or glaciers which represent their drainage, all creep down to the water's edge, in some cases presenting a front of several miles. As the steamer moves on, the panorama constantly changes, showing the mountains and glaciers from every point of view without involving the slightest fatigue on the part of the tourists; and as soon as one ice river is out of sight another shows its edge, and gradually stands revealed in all its grandeur. One never gets over the surprise that the snow line should be so low—that the snow in the crater-like dug-outs on the mountain sides should be so near the level of the ocean.

On entering Glacier Bay another Arctic surprise awaits the tourist. Icebergs of all shapes and sizes begin to float about the steamer, some just large enough to fill the steward's depleted ice box, others, the size of a steamer, compelling the *Olympian* to moderate her speed. As the great glacier is in sight two hours before the steamer reaches it, though headed directly for it, the passengers have ample time to admire the exquisite blue and white tints of these icebergs, and note their odd forms and resemblances to the hull of a steamer, various geometrical figures, a bundle of logs, a fairy grotto, or a sphinx, etc. Some of them are entirely covered with scores of gulls, which fly away with harsh cries as the steamer approaches. It appears incredible that the surface of the glacier which lies a few miles ahead should be more than two hundred feet above the water; it seems no more than twenty; but the apparent height constantly increases until the steamer brings up suddenly within a few hundred feet of the icy wall. Then there is a chorus of obs and ahs, and the Bishop of Rochester (England) dogmatically pronounces it the grandest sight in the world. Imagine a wall of solid ice, two hundred and twenty-five feet high, extending for about a mile to right and left, the upper portions white and broken up into the most fantastic crags and pinnacles, like the rocks of the Yellowstone Cañon; the lower portions of a deeper and deeper blue, according as the increased pressure from above and from the sides has squeezed out the air and changed the solid snow into pure ice, producing near the centre a grotto of more than celestial blue. Imagine, furthermore, that there are eight hundred feet more of this wall under the water, and even if it is true that the Muir Glacier moves thirty or forty feet a day, instead of only two or three, like those of Switzerland, the portion of ice now visible to the eye represents snow that fell perhaps hundreds of years ago, and has been slowly

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creeping down with the ice river ever since, and the meaning of the word sublime will perhaps become clearer than any metaphysical definition could make it. Every ten or fifteen minutes the spectator is startled from his reveries by an explosion, followed by an aggravated multitudinous echo, and caused by the fall of a portion of the ice wall into the bay, where it floats away as an iceberg. As it splashes into the sea the water flies up as in a geyser, and a wild wave dashes over the rocks, tosses about the steamer, and threatens to land it high and dry on the beach.

After this spectacle has grown familiar, the boats are lowered and every one goes ashore to climb up the side of the glacier and get a view of its rugged surface, resembling a stormy ocean suddenly frozen with all its white-caps. Here also can be seen the dozen or more tributary glaciers which combine to make the Muir, and the semicircle of snow mountains whose sides they adorn. The amateur photographers have brought their apparatus along, and take groups of the passengers with this picturesque background; and then the steamer's whistle summons all back to embark for Sitka. As the *Olympian* slowly gets ready to depart, one notices what in the excitement had previously escaped notice—the grooved and polished rocks, at least a thousand feet up the mountain side, indicating how high the glacier must have been formerly. A century ago Glacier Bay was not navigable, and according to Indian tradition the Muir Glacier has receded five miles in three generations; but this need not alarm tourists, as it still has a reserve to last a few thousand years longer. On leaving Glacier Bay we were so fortunate as to see the giants Crillon and Fairweather outlined against a perfectly clear sky, illuminated by one of the most gorgeous sunsets I have ever seen, and the glories of which did not fade till ten o'clock. It is a superb mountain group, bearing a distant resemblance to the Mönch-Eiger-Jungfrau group, as seen near Mürren, which Mr. Tyndall does not stand alone in regarding as the finest in Switzerland.

HENRY T. FINCK.

Correspondence.

THE NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY AGAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Owing to circumstances, the *Nation* of September 1, containing the letter of Prof. March, did not reach me till to-day. In two or three instances his exceptions to my notice of the 'New English Dictionary' are well taken. My failure to find *bargeret* was due to nothing but pure, unadulterated stupidity in not noting what I certainly read. The same is the case with *bel*. Under *bead* I should have said that the quotation from Vaughan does not appear in the place where it properly belongs and with the meaning it properly has. But Prof. March unintentionally misquotes me when he says that I suppose *bargeret* to occur but once in English literature. I said that I knew of its occurring but once. No one regrets more sincerely than myself that the facts of language and my knowledge of them are unfortunately two very distinct things.

But Prof. March's other points are not well taken, and some of them strike me as wholly indefensible. It would be a most unprofitable work of supererogation for the choicest of "choice spirits" to forward words from authors who have already been specially read for this dictionary; and it was to such authors that I intentionally confined myself. Nor could very specific references be deemed matter of much moment in the case of words that had been already passed by in the works in question. In regard to the two, however, which occasion the most distress, *blandulish* will be found in Sterne's correspondence for the year 1761, and *baubledom*—with the spelling *bawbledom*—in the additional letters of Walpole printed by Jesse in his Life of George III. (vol. i, p. 379). The latter does not mean 'bric-à-brac,' but is interesting as showing that the language was feeling about for some word to express the idea conveyed by that term. In regard to *boes*, Prof. March misses the point. The man who knows already that it is a contract form from the verb *behove* will not need to consult the dictionary at all; he who does not, would hardly think of looking for it under that word. A similar remark is true of the once very common, but now obsolete, forms *bit*, *bint*, and *betit*. To a distinguished scholar like Prof. March, who is thoroughly familiar with them, their omission does not seem a deficiency. It might naturally impress otherwise the men who are not familiar with them; and it is not for the men who know, but for those who do not know, that dictionaries are primarily prepared.

I had anticipated Prof. March in the statement that the idiomatic phrase containing *beard* was already included; but that does not justify the omission of its independent use and meaning, which is perfectly plain in the line quoted, and does not require the least suggestion of *double entente*. The implied view, however, that a word or meaning should be excluded because it is not "nice," if accepted as held by the editors of a great dictionary like this, would be a most damaging charge against the work. There is nothing, I believe, to justify the belief that they act upon any such principle. Prudishness is bad enough when displayed anywhere; but it can hardly be more absurdly out of place than in a great dictionary.

THE WRITER OF THE REVIEW.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1887.

THE ILLUSTRIOUS-FATHER MOVEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: If the sugar which renders palatable the white of an egg will do the same for castor oil, then, doubtless, all sons of illustrious fathers are equally worthy of honor and office, and the fate of one as a candidate will determine the acceptability of another. This theory is advanced as ground for the recent nomination of Mr. Fred. Grant in New York, and it is thought by some that it would be a happy idea to couple his name with that of Mr. Robert Lincoln on the next Presidential ticket. I hear it suggested, however, that there is a grievous mistake in this, inasmuch as Mr. Grant's eminent fitness for the Secretaryship of the United States Treasury—demonstrated in his business career, even previous to the Grant & Ward failure—sufficiently indicates *this* as the one proper position for him under the next Administration. There can be little doubt that the surplus could thus be disposed of in some way without calling for over-exertion on the part of Gen. Butler *et al.*, while the son of some other great man might be found who could better be spared to grace the second place on the ticket or to serve the State of New York. I would suggest that, in order to make the proposed *Illustrious-Father Administration* complete, and to render doubly sure the care of the surplus (though personally I should have no fear for the latter), those who have the composition of the ticket in hand begin early to press upon the principals the claims for the *Assistant Secretaryship* of the Treasury of Mr. Robert Garrett, the son of a most able father, happily released from the cares of a great railroad just in time to enter upon this new field.

With profound respect for illustrious fathers, and a hope that some are in process of growth among us this day,

C. M. GARDNER.

CHICAGO, ILL., September 17, 1887.

GRAND ARMY PROGRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I suspect we have not yet seen the end of the extravagant demands made by members of the G. A. R. They now ask for the offices without that examination into their fitness which other persons must undergo; they ask for pensions for everybody who put on a uniform or shouldered a gun; they circulate petitions for the immediate pardon of a Chicago "boodler," on the ground that he was a soldier in the Union Army. It is perfectly certain that within the next twenty-five years still more astounding claims will be made.

We were congratulated by foreigners at the close of the war that the vast body of men who composed the army, so easily found their old places in peaceful pursuits and did not for a moment become an organized menace to Congress and the President. We congratulated ourselves also, yet we had no fear of such a result. It is possible that we were too sanguine.

Very respectfully, H.

LAWRENCE, KANSAS, September 13, 1887.

STATE OWNERSHIP OF LAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: There is a commendable spirit of honesty and sincerity in the letter of your correspondent Henry Bartlett, upon the question of "no ownership in land," as published in the *Nation* of September 8.

His hypothetical case labors under one very serious difficulty, namely, that after he has built his house on the first lot, the other nine men may not prove as unselfish as himself. The first one of them who comes along may be a man of foresight, and may build a fence around the entire nine lots, and, by paying the necessary taxes, maintain his claim against all comers and make them pay him about the market price of the land for his right, or else become his tenants.

Suppose the aforesaid individual should find that his judgment as to the future of the town was in error, and it should happen that there was no demand for the property; then he would have only to abandon it, and would lose no investment, but only the taxes he had paid. Could anything be nicer for a real-estate speculator?

As all the improvements in town would certainly belong to the individuals whose labor and money had put them there, and hence could be bought and sold, and as taxes would be regulated "according to the necessities of Government," it seems possible that some one might own the entire town some day by simply buying up the improvements and meeting the aforesaid necessities of Government. Of course, the people would still own the land, but this grasping capitalist would own a top stratum, so to speak, in the shape of houses, etc.—Very truly, W. M. H.

ST. LOUIS, September 12, 1887.

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN SELF-GOVERNMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In the very valuable review of Dr. Gneist's History (*Nation*, No. 1155) the following words occur:

"The American people have retained these institutions of local self-government which they brought with them in the seventeenth century in a far higher degree of vigor and integrity than the mother country has done."

In making a statement so sweeping, your re-

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viewer must have forgotten one noteworthy feature in the development of the institutions of local self-government by our brethren in the "old home." During the last half century they have established a dozen thriving communities of men, each with a system of local self-government almost perfect; and have made great progress in preparing a dozen other communities for the same blessing.

But the growth of local self-government is not always rightly indicated by the multiplication of local constitutions. If we turn to the British Islands themselves, we shall find the local life there wonderfully vigorous and wonderfully clean morally. When a municipal scheme is under discussion, it is discussed all over the town, and public opinion is brought to bear on those in authority with a plainness and directness we rarely see here. There seems to be there a wider individual activity in public affairs. With us, matters of vital local concern are too often arranged, for better, for worse, and we scarcely hear an echo beyond the walls of the council chamber.

H. H. M.

WAYLAND, MASS.

A PARCELS POST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Some time ago the German Post-office Department invited our own to examine the working of the system for transmission of parcels by post-office, in order that our Government might be induced to join in so convenient an arrangement. Our Postmaster-General appears to have taken some steps in that direction, but found, as it seems, so stout a resistance on the part of the express companies that he was obliged to renounce the plan.

It seems very clear that if our people do not desire to be sacrificed to the express companies, they must make their wishes felt. In other countries, less corporation ridden than ours, this great improvement in international intercourse has long been established. The question is, how long the express companies will be able to prevent its adoption here.

L.

ELIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Perhaps some one among the *Nation's* readers can give me Mr. Lowell's authority for the statement which he makes ('Democracy and other Addresses,' p. 113) with respect to the title of the 'Essays of Elia.' He says: "Old Howell [author of 'Epistolæ Ho-Elianæ'], whom I love to cite, because his name gave their title to the 'Essays of Elia.'"

The name Elia is, I think, generally supposed to have been that of a clerk in the India House years before Lamb went there, or, as others say, in the South Sea House. "Mr. Elia (whose name he assumed)," says "Barry Cornwall," "was at one time a clerk in the India House." Talfourd speaks of Elia as having formerly been a clerk in the South Sea House.

Any reference given in explanation of Mr. Lowell's words would greatly oblige me.

Sincerely yours, W.

Notes.

JOEL MUNSELL'S SONS, Albany, have in press for early publication a volume containing all the inscriptions in the Granary burying-ground, Boston—a task not new, but undertaken now under better auspices than heretofore. King's Chapel graveyard may also be attempted anew, if the above venture succeed. The same firm have just issued the second volume of their 'American Ancestry,' local series, for Columbia Co., N. Y. Living representatives of the Van Rensselaers and Livingstons are among the 3,500 names recorded.

In addition to the announcements of Houghton, Mifflin & Co. already made, we should mention a new revised and enlarged edition of Stedman's 'Victorian Poets,' of which one issue will be on large paper, limited to 250 copies, and illustrated with portraits; and 'In the Track of Ulysses, archæological studies by W. J. Stillman, consisting of his several articles in the *Century* under the above title, and also his previous discussion of the Venus of Melos, with the illustrations.

S. C. Griggs & Co., Chicago, announce 'Hegel's Philosophy of the State and of History,' in Prof. Geo. S. Morris's "German Philosophical Classics"; and 'Men, Places, and Things,' essays by William Mathews.

More dialect in fiction may be had in 'Uncle Lisha's Shop, or Life in a Corner of Yankeeland [viz, Vermont],' by Rowland E. Robinson, to be brought out by the *Forest and Stream* Publishing Co.

The Clarendon Press, Oxford, issues for private circulation a proposal to publish a revised text of the Peshito version of the Four Gospels, under the editorship of the Rev. G. H. Gwilliam, whose collation of several Syriac versions confirms (and partially corrects) the traditional text of the Peshito, and proves that its variations from the Greek are not modern corruptions, but "date from a most remote antiquity."

From Scribner & Welford we have several late issues in the Bohn Classical and Standard Series. Mr. Aubrey Stewart's translation of Seneca 'On Benefits' gives this epistle complete in English for the first time since Lodge's edition of 1614. Heretofore it has been accessible only in Robert L'Estrange's abstract. Apart from its ethical value, the work by reason of its numerous anecdotes has an historical importance, and is in a high degree readable. Mr. Ernest Belfort Bax, in reëditing Adam Smith's 'Wealth of Nations' from the sixth edition in two handy volumes, has treated it as a classic rather than as a living text-book, and hence has supplied foot-notes "only when they have seemed absolutely necessary as correctives of the text." Mr. Bax has, however, furnished an introduction to show the state of the science before this work appeared, and the immediate consequences of the publication, with a mere glance at present tendencies in economic doctrine. Finally, we must mention 'The Letters and Works of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu,' from Moy Thomas's third edition of Lord Wharncliffe, likewise in two volumes, and containing two portraits of the famous wit and traveller.

'Marius,' the third volume of "Les Misérables," has just been issued by Wm. R. Jenkins in the handsome edition he is publishing in French of Victor Hugo's work. The next volume is announced to appear in October, and the last one before the end of the year. Since the Paris publishers have withdrawn the 18mo edition of 'Les Misérables' from the market, the present one is very welcome to those readers of French in this country who do not care to possess it in the luxurious and costly 8vo form in which alone it is otherwise obtainable.

We have received from Routledge & Sons (London and New York) two new volumes of their translation of Alphonse Daudet: 'La Belle-Nivernaise' and 'Tartarin of Tarascon.' Both are very fully illustrated with the original designs of the Paris edition by Montégut, Myrbach, Rossi, etc. 'La Belle-Nivernaise' contains, besides the long story which gives its title to the volume, four of the author's shorter stories, which are always pleasant to read and sometimes delightful. They are the same that appear in the edition published by Marpon & Flammarion, in their "Auteurs célèbres," except that the English translator has omitted the best of them all, "Jarjaille chez le bon Dieu," probably because he considered it too irreverent. The omission is to be regretted, for Daudet has given the old *fabliau* in his most delightful manner. One of the stories translated is, however, among the best of the legends of his native south which he tells so well: "Les trois messes basses," with its fantastic pictures, is altogether charming. The material execution of the books is excellent. No translator's name is given to either, but the versions seem to be as well done as it would be reasonable to expect when the originals are by a writer so striking and individual as Alphonse Daudet.

Two years ago (*Nation*, No. 1045) we noticed, with the praise which it merits, M. Désiré Charnay's 'Anciennes Villes du Nouveau Monde.' It is now before us in English, translated by J. Gonino and Helen S. Conant, and bearing the imprint of Harper & Brothers ('The Ancient Cities of the New World: being Voyages and Explorations in Mexico and Central America from 1857 to 1882'). As all the engravings and maps of the French edition are reproduced, the result, with excellent typography, is a very handsome book indeed, and a valuable addition to the popular sources of knowledge concerning a region still as full of mystery as it is of charm. Mr. Allen Thorndike Rice furnishes an introduction to the present edition.

In the new volume W of *Wide Awake* (Boston: D. Lothrop Co.) we remark, along with the superabundance of imaginative designs usual in children's magazines, a wholesome sprinkling of "process" engravings from nature, like the illustrations to the article on "L'Enfant Terrible Turk," and the English views in the article, "The Story of Two Names"—*i. e.*, Pocahontas and John Rolfe. Of equal merit with these is the wood engraving after the portrait of Pocahontas and her son in Heacham Hall.

Timely "Reading Notes on the Constitution of the United States" are contributed to the July-September Bulletin of the Library Company of Philadelphia by Mr. James G. Barnwell. They are very full and helpful; but as they end with Mr. Gladstone's familiar glorification of the Constitution as a *tour de force*, we naturally miss under the heading "Comparison with Other Constitutions" any direct reference to the several provincial constitutions which Prof. Johnston has just brought to bear so effectively on the instrument of 1787.

Mr. J. H. Hickcox's monthly 'Catalogue of the Publications of the United States Government' (Washington, 906 M. Street, W.) has stood the test of an indispensable good article in obtaining its price. At five dollars it has a chance to live; there are persons enough ready to pay this price, and the third volume has accordingly begun to appear. Nos. 1 and 2 contain a great deal of valuable information as to how to procure Government publications under the law, both gratuitously and by purchase; both after they have appeared and by order before. Knowledge of the right time to notify the Public Printer that extra copies of a forthcoming document are desired can in general only be had from Mr. Hickcox's Catalogue, which is, of course, the sole complete register of the issues from the Government Printing Office.

From B. Westermann & Co. we receive the conclusion of volume 7, and ten parts of volume 8, of the new Meyer's 'Konversations-Lexikon.' Greece and Great Britain are the most significant politico-historical articles. Much space is given to trade and cognate subjects. The closeness of the editing is shown in the account of Lord Har-

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tington, whose present attitude towards English parties is recorded. In the chat with correspondents, the main figures of the French census of May 30, 1886, are given, and a necrological list supplementary to the biographical notices in volumes 1 and 7 is appended.

The same firm sends us Parts 83-98 of the 'Allgemeine Naturkunde,' all but the first being devoted to Geology, which is Dr. Melchior Neumayr's province. The illustrations preserve their high order of excellence, and are in the nature of the case often drawn from this continent. Arizona, Wyoming, and Mexico furnish subjects for some of the most striking colored plates. Particularly fine among these are two representing crystals and precious stones.

The publishers of the *Century* probably do not overrate the importance of Mr. George Kennan's series of illustrated papers on "Siberia, and the Exile System," which begins with the November number, when they mention it in the same breath with the War Papers and the Life of Lincoln. It will have a decided political significance, making many revelations, but it will also have some of the charm which Mr. Kennan as tourist and explorer is so well qualified to give it.

The *Studio* for July has been belated by Rajon's etched portrait of Mrs. Cleveland, which, now that it appears, is seen to have been worth waiting for, though it will be felt to fall short of that lady's difficult beauty. It is a profile, and the treatment (from life) is sketchy. The same number is rich in a large number of "process" prints after paintings in the Durand-Ruel collection, of which that by Puvis de Chavannes will most attract attention; and after etchings by Rembrandt. These last are accompanied by a careful article on Rembrandt by the competent hand of Mr. Edward H. Greenleaf, Curator of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

The *Curio* (R. W. Wright, 6 Astor Place, N. Y.) offers a handsome first number, containing articles on Binding as a Fine Art, American Book Plates and Book-Plate Engravers, and Washington Portraits by Stuart, which we might have looked for in the *Bookmaker*, the *Book-Buyer*, and the *Studio* respectively. American Pedigrees also receive attention at the hands of Mr. E. de V. Vermont and others; there is a biographical sketch, with portrait, of the eminent London bookseller, Bernard Quaritch; and Mr. Edgar Fawcett begins a story, "The Dominick Diamonds." The number is freely illustrated, and a loose sheet contains a portrait of the Prince of Wales, apparently enlarged from the one which appeared in the Paris *Club Almanach* for 1883. A character summary, after the manner of those prepared for the cartoons of *Vanity Fair*, accompanies this portrait from "the *Curio* Camera." Distinctive departments are a list of articles in the periodicals of the month relating to topics in line with the *Curio*, and a catalogue of current booksellers' catalogues, with select items with prices annexed.

The first number of the (autograph) *Collector*, published by W. E. Benjamin & Co. at 744 Broadway, is before us.

Ginn & Co., Boston, promise directly the first number of the *Journal of Morphology*, and the second number probably in December.

"Christophe Colomb et Savone" is the title of an article contributed by M. Henry Harrisse to the September number of the *Revue Historique*. It is partly an answer to adverse criticisms on his 'Life of Columbus,' and is partly written to draw attention to some documents printed for the first time in the 'Memorie particolari' of Verzellino. He recounts briefly the vicissitudes of the manuscript of this work on the history of Savona (once the rival of Genoa in commerce as well as in its claim to be the birthplace of the great discoverer), which, after the lapse of nearly three centuries, has at length found an editor. He then describes with much humor the growth of the birth-myth in the sixteen other Italian towns which dispute with these two cities this honor, and at the same time the claim of all his countrymen bearing his name to a connection, at least by collateral descent. The documents preserved at Savona, which relate entirely to the business transactions of Domenico, Christopher's father, are then discussed, and shown with great erudition to prove conclusively that Christopher could not have been born in Savona. Incidentally M. Harrisse quotes, from a manuscript recently discovered in the Archives of Genoa, this sentence, which throws much light on the vexed question of the date of the birth of Columbus. It reads as follows: "Christofforus de Columbo filius Dominici, maior annis decemnovem." The document is dated "October 30, 1470." This, taken in connection with other known facts, says M. Harrisse, makes it certain that "the great navigator could not have been born before 1446, nor after 1451." The probability is that his birth took place between "March 25, 1446, and March 20, 1447."

From the *Bulletin* of the Librairie des Bibliophiles (New York: Duprat) we learn that the sixth and concluding volume of the works of Paul de Molènes has just been published. This contains 'Les Caprices d'un Régulier,' a not very edifying sketch, and, in rather odd juxtaposition, a series of hitherto unpublished 'Réflections sur l'Imitation de Jésus-Christ.' These are the annotations made by the soldier-writer on the margins of the copy of the 'Imitation' which he always carried with him in his campaigns. The fourth volume of the edition of Montaigne by MM. Motheau and Jouaust, already mentioned in these columns, has also been issued, as well as an *édition de luxe* of 'Les Quinze Joyes de Mariage,' with a preface by Louis Ulbach and twenty-one etchings by Lalauze. To the collection known as the "Bibliothèque des Dames" of the same house is added the 'Éducation des Filles' of Fénelon, with preface by M. Octave Gréard.

The last volumes issued by Hachette (Boston: Schoenhof) in his collection called "L'Histoire de France racontée par les contemporains" are 'Henri III.: Les débuts de la Ligue, 1574-1578,' and 'Le règne des mignons: le duc d'Alençon et les Pays-Bas, 1578-1587.' These are made up entirely of extracts from the 'Mémoires de l'Estoile,' those of Marguerite de Valois, D'Aubigné's 'Histoire,' the 'Lettres missives' of Henri IV., the 'Économies royales' of Sully, etc. The collection (in a small 16mo at 50 centimes) is edited by M. Bernard Zeller of the Faculty of Letters of Paris. Thirty-four volumes have now been issued.

Hachette has recently published in his "Petite Bibliothèque illustrée," also at 50 centimes, 'Les Trois Henri,' by Zeller, and, in a large octavo volume, 'Un Jésuite homme de lettres au XVIIe siècle: Le Père Bouhours,' by M. George Doncieux.

American literature is getting a foothold in Paris. Among other translations, we see 'Le prophète des montagnes fumeuses, par Egbert Graddoch' (*sic*). 'Don't' appears as 'Ce qu'il ne faut pas faire.'

—"American Authors and British Pirates," the title of Mr. Brander Matthews's article in the September *New Princeton Review*, adequately describes its contents. As its views are sound, and their presentation clear, it is perhaps hypercritical to remark that there is nothing original in Mr. Matthews's standpoint, and that the instances cited in support of the argument have not the charm of novelty. A more reasonable ground for criticism is, that the author has not chosen to handle his material with his customary literary skill. We have our doubts, also, as to whether the British are "more unblushing and unscrupulous" than American publishers of the same relative standing. Does Mr. Matthews think that the Munros, and Ogilvies, and Iverses would not resort to the tricks of "condensation," like the Warnes and the Wards, if the law in this country did not permit the *total* appropriation of a foreigner's work? And is the frequency of adaptations in England due to the greater depravity of the English publisher, or to the fact that our enormous reading public, having always been accustomed to a larger measure of English literature than American, is as familiar with £, s., d. as it is with dollars and cents, and therefore has no wish for a uniform local color? This may indicate a less degree of literary narrowness, or a wider range of intellectual sympathy, on our part; but it also shows, either that the character of our mental tissues depends upon the cheapness of the food which sustains them, or that there is an inevitable dearth of proper food in this country. As the first supposition reflects upon our honesty, and the second on our capacity, we might as well avoid raising the issue, and content ourselves with the accepted notion that the moral sense of reprinting publishers is pretty much the same, whatever may be their imprint.

—Mr. Stewart Culin, who has carefully studied 'The Religious Ceremonies of the Chinese in the Eastern Cities of the United States,' has embodied the result of his researches in a privately printed pamphlet, which is a luxurious specimen of the printer's art. The Chinese who emigrate to America come from the province of Kwantung, near Canton, seven or eight towns furnishing nearly the entire number. They are unlettered country people, fresh from the hills and paddy fields, the small number of artisans and shopkeepers hailing mostly from the cities, especially Canton. They exhibit many local peculiarities of speech and customs, and their patois can scarcely be understood even by natives of the same province who live at a distance from the group of "four towns," the inhabitants of which are, to the Cantonese, incorrigible rustics. Outwardly professing one or both of the two popular religions of their mother-country, Buddhism or Taoism, the essence of their belief is the primeval fetishism that underlies all the religions of Asia. Their chief shrines for divination, festivity, and worship are at Belleville, Philadelphia, and New York. They are influenced not only by the gods and spirits whose renowned interpositions are famed in all Kwantung and even throughout the vast Middle Kingdom, but also by the spirits native to our heath. Cases are current in which American demons have distressed tired laundrymen by ogling them in the dark, pulling at their bedclothes, and otherwise disquieting the newly arrived strangers. As a matter of courtesy, these foreign ghosts are honored with ceremonial rites, though, unfortunately, as the Chinese master of ceremonies explained, these beings are as barbarous in their tastes as are the laundry customers in the flesh. They do not appreciate the rice or tea offered them, nor are they able to read the characters, and thus understand. A great many interesting facts have been learned by Mr. Culin, and the reader is enabled to see into the significance of certain special customs; as, for instance, blue wrought in the cue or shoes—a sign of mourning—and the symbolism of their shrines, and minor holy things kept in the laundries, or pasted on the walls. The pamphlet ought to be reprinted in cheaper form, and read by intelligent people who desire to know these most terrestrial "celestials," and by earnest Sunday-school teachers who are trying to Christianize them.

—The student of mediæval superstitions will be

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glad to have his attention directed to a valuable and but little-known source, of which very few copies can have reached this country. The dangers to which Christianity was exposed from the side of Roman and, later, of German superstition are well known. The early sermons and penance books are full of injunctions against the pagan observances which the convert might be tempted to follow, and the lives of the saints contain frequent accounts of the daring destruction of heathen fanes and groves where the Christians were too prone to forget their new faith. Some years ago Dr. C. P. Caspari, Professor of Theology at the University of Norway (Christiania), discovered in a MS. of the eighth century in the Benedictine Monastery at Einsiedeln a sermon bearing the title: "Humelia sancti Augustini de sacrilegia." The attribution of the sermon to the Bishop of Hippo is incorrect, nor would the title at once give an idea of its interesting contents. The word *sacrilegia* is here used to indicate the practice and observance by the Christians of heathen ceremonies and superstitious customs. It is impossible to fix exactly the date of the composition of this sermon, but it is between the middle of the sixth and the end of the seventh century, and the writer was probably a Frankish ecclesiastic from the north of the kingdom. Prof. Caspari called attention to the value of the sermon in the *Zeitschrift für deutsches Alterthum* (1881), and afterwards edited it with notes in Norwegian in the *Theol. Tidsskrift for den ev.-luth. Kirke i Norge*, vol. ix. This form was not very accessible to scholars, and the editor has now published a new edition in German, under the title: 'Eine Augustin fälschlich beilegte Homilia de Sacrilegiis' (Christiania, 1886).

—Too much praise cannot be awarded this admirable piece of work, which is interesting from so many standpoints. Prof. Caspari's notes are most valuable, and can be consulted with profit by all students of folk-lore. The sermon is in the nature of a solemn warning to Christians not to indulge in a long catalogue of superstitious observances, under pain of losing the benefits of their faith and baptism. The superstitions are naturally for the most part those of the Romans, but there are also German ones, *e. g.*, the February *spurcalia*, driving out the winter in February, etc.; and some common to both nations, as making a great clamor during an eclipse of the moon. It is impossible to mention here even a small part of the long list of superstitions included in the sermon. It furnishes many curious examples of the early occurrence of superstitions which we meet in the later Middle Ages, and even in modern times. One section runs as follows: "Et qui clericum vel monachum de mane aut quacumque hora uidens aut ouians, abominosum sibi esse credet, iste non solum paganus, sed demoniacus est, qui christi militem abominatur." Caspari cites Grimm and an instance from the beginning of the seventeenth century. Jacques de Vitry, the historian of the Crusades, in his hitherto unpublished *sermones vulgares* (Paris, *Bib. Nat. MSS. Fonds latins* 17,509), which belong to the first half of the thirteenth century, mentions the same superstition as existing in France, and adds that he heard that during a plague in a certain city of France, the ignorant people thought the only way to arrest it was to throw their priest into the ditch with the dead. There is a story of the fourteenth century (Bromyard) of a woman who crossed herself when she met a priest, saying she did it to avoid misfortune. The priest, in order that the omen might not fail, threw her into a muddy ditch, saying, "Recte fiat tibi sicut credidisti." Another very interesting superstition is the one in regard to consulting the Scriptures as oracles: "et qui per scripturas sanctas deum, quid eis facturus sit, expectatur, quid ipsas indicent scripturas." This passage Caspari illustrates by two remarkable examples in Gregory of Tours ('Hist. Franc.,' iv, 16; v, 14), and in Jonas of Orleans ('Vita Huberti, Episc. Leod.,' c, 15). Enough has been said to show the great value of Dr. Caspari's little book to the students of folk-lore and *Culturgeschichte*. The philologist will also find much that is interesting in this specimen of mediæval Latin, which offers some forms not to be found elsewhere.

RECENT NOVELS.

In Ole Virginia. By Thomas Nelson Page. Charles Scribner's Sons.

Cracker Joe. [No Name Series.] Boston: Roberts Bros.

Behind the Blue Ridge. By Francis Courtenay Baylor. J. B. Lippincott Co.

The Van Gelder Papers. Edited by J. T. I. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Penelope's Suitors. By Edward Lassetter Bynner. Boston: Ticknor & Co.

Dick's Wanderings. By Julian Sturgis. D. Appleton & Co.

The Cruise of a Woman-Hater. By G. M. Montauban. Ticknor & Co.

COLLECTIVELY, Mr. Page's tales entitled 'In Ole Virginia' form an epic historical and tragic. After reading them we see one figure with the certainty and distinctness of actual vision. Called by no matter what name, that figure is always the same—a young man, exquisitely fine of nature, gentle, chivalrous, hot-blooded, at once the pink of courtesy, courage incarnate, and honor's self. He can think no evil, much less do it. Born to lordship, his life-path cut straight through gardens of roses that never fade almost before he comes to his own, his princedom is but an empty name: the roses are all thorns; he falls before the cannon's mouth, his dead fingers twined about his so-called country's flag. That is the beautiful figure by which, be it true to life or false, a capable story-teller has chosen to perpetuate the South that fought and died. That is the figure which vivifies all the incidents, serious, melodramatic, and comic, and illumines every picture of family and plantation life.

Mr. Page, like all who are notable in the rising host of Southern writers of fiction, does not recite the epic impersonally as an outside observer, nor does he put it in the mouth of a survivor of the ruling class. The glory of the master is told by the lips and in the language of the slave. There is nothing more curious or interesting in this creative literature of the New South than the apparently spontaneous and almost uniform choice of the negro and his dialect as the mediums best fitted to lay bare the heart of the Old South. The obvious reasons for the selection, such as greater opportunity afforded by it for picturesqueness, for novelty, and for eccentric humor, are not sufficient wholly to account for it. Nor is it convincing to remark flippantly that all the gentlemen perished in the war, or to attribute to the authors a desire to correct a widespread belief in the horrors of the past condition of servitude. The selection is not deliberate and calculated, but rather a strange, general impulse, in obeying which probably not one of the authors perceived any singular significance. The thoroughgoing abolitionist may discover here the hand of fate, retributive and compensatory. The tradition of splendor and supreme distinction is handed down by those upon whose labor they were founded, and for whose sake they were annihilated.

In Mr. Page's hands the negro dialect is an extraordinarily flexible and effective literary tool. By his apparently inexhaustible command of its vocabulary and phraseology, he has won special distinction, but in the writing of plain English he has yet much to learn. "No Haid Pawn" (which, being translated, means No Head Pond) is an effort which suggests limitation of ability. The idea of frightful crime and supernatural visitation in a setting of swamp, marsh, and jungle is too much for him, and he is further handicapped by a seeming fear of that latitude in English construction allowable for grace and force, and by a weakness in some fine points of English grammar. Any man, however, must have a peculiarly weird and fantastic vocabulary at his tongue's end to do justice to the subject of "No Haid Pawn." The only example in the volume of a character not drawn in dialect, yet full of life and free, is that of the Colonel in "Polly." The author has so thoroughly imagined the hard-drinking, hard-riding, freely profane old planter, that the words exactly descriptive come to him with perfect ease and naturalness.

There is a feebleness about 'Cracker Joe' which indicates either that the author doesn't know his locality and characters too well, or that he has not that quality of critical observation which makes a local story valuable and universally attractive. Cracker Joe, the richest planter in Florida, is not a very conspicuous figure, and is chiefly remarkable for the variety and inconsistency of his habits of speech. One moment he is talking jargon, and the next, without any discoverable inspiration, he soars into elegant English, using his colons and semicolons with admirable precision. He might, perhaps, be more highly appreciated if he were not so persistently neglected for other people incapable of keeping in their proper, subordinate place. On the other hand, several of the underlings might repay attention, if they were not, as mere embryos, constantly thrust aside to make room for the nonsensical melodrama woven about Cracker Joe and Hermit George. In a word, the performance is chaotic; the poor bits belong nowhere, and the good bits would have been better somewhere else. The sketch of the low-down Cracker family, though incomplete, is very good. There are individual touches in the story of Derinthy's fatal love for Hermit George which give it probability and refined pathos. The transplanted New Yorkers get along with a rapidity that may heighten the fascinations exercised by Florida over Northerners obliged to emigrate in search of a living. A little reflection, however, will dissuade most people from measuring their own possible success by that achieved by the Ainsleys. It is not every one who can fall back on a bundle of bonds erroneously supposed to have been worthless, a grand piano, and a handful of gold nuggets thrust into a canvas bag in a moment of that contempt for nuggets which characterized every hour of a luxurious past.

In 'Behind the Blue Ridge' there appears again the assumption that the public taste runs to novels written mostly in corrupt English. When American novelists shall have exhausted the various corruptions of speech actually heard throughout the Union, or possibly to be invented at their desks, then they may devote some attention to the remnant that speaks with tolerable correctness and purity. Of all these corruptions, that ascribed to dwellers in the mountains of Virginia and the Carolinas is the rudest. Philologically, it is of the smallest value; for what local color it may give to a narrative, it is certainly not worth the trouble of transcription, or that of spelling out, for no one can truthfully say that he *reads* it. The people behind the Blue Ridge seem to express themselves in as wretched a gibberish as can be conceived. They are a hard, narrow-natured people, as inaccessible to the spiritualizing influences of civilization as is their

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mountain fastness to its material benefits. They are dreary, hopeless, quarrelsome people, and it is difficult to see any useful purpose to be served by minute description of their daily life.

There was once a man born among them and of them, yet bearing no sort of resemblance to them. He was called John Shore. He played the fiddle, married a pretty girl, and was all his life long an irreclaimable vagabond. He is Rip Van Winkle shorn of mythical interest. He is the sort of man who appeals to the sympathies of all the world except his relations and neighbors. John Shore is a pathetic person, but not native to the Blue Ridge. In every village there is sure to be one man who, because he is different from the rest, becomes an object of hostility, and the victim of tacitly organized persecution. In fact, there is nothing that either the small or great world resents so hotly as a difference from the generality, in which superiority of one sort or another is vaguely suspected. All the superiority that the John Shores can claim is a faculty for minding their own business and persisting in living their lives according to their own lights. But it is really their small virtues, not their great vices, that excite the wrath of their community. There is little in the novel of which John Shore is the hero to lighten the melancholy atmosphere permanent behind the Blue Ridge; the best that can be said for it is, that it is probably much more truthfully descriptive than are the tales of mountains and mountaineers which delight the imagination and stimulate very fine sensibilities.

'The Van Gelder Papers' are stories of ghosts clanking about old houses at midnight, of goblins haunting forest and stream, by the Long Island shores and the banks of the Hudson. The papers were collected by Volkerk van Gelder, who loved nothing better than hearing an old-wife's tale, unless it might be writing it down. The ghosts whose acquaintance he made, either personally or by hearsay, are original and satisfactory. Like Mr. Frank Stockton's ghosts, they are generally friendly, well-meaning fellows. They descend to earth on some special, sensible business bent, and they transact it exactly as they would have done in the flesh. To study their manners is to educate ourselves away from our horror of an attempt on the part of a friend or even of an enemy to continue relations with us after his physical death. Indeed, for people who have exhausted sensations afforded by the world, there is infinite resource in cultivating an intimacy with intelligent, liberal-minded ghosts. The Van Gelder ghosts are all that one could desire—self-possessed, prompt, serene. They waste little time in words, but when they do speak, it is with a vigorous terseness which seems natural to a Dutch sea-rover or pioneer. The events which demanded assistance from ghost and goblin, and occasionally from the devil himself, are narrated skilfully and pleasantly. There is a good deal of spirit and humor in the manner, and in describing personal appearance the author is uncommonly happy. Though we have a habit of regarding the Dutch period in New York as peculiarly Irving's literary property, some of these stories challenge comparison with Irving's, yet are by no means imitations. They stand so well upon their own merits that the editor may be encouraged to make further researches among Van Gelder's papers.

In the charming little story of 'Penelope's Suitors,' Mr. Bynner also makes an incursion on sacred territory. Inseparably connected with the romance of colonial Massachusetts is that great name, Nathaniel Hawthorne. The day has not yet come when any but a man of exceptional courage or a fool will attempt a tale of a Governor and the Province House. Mr. Bynner has been bold, but not reckless. He has avoided tragedy, even intensity, and has simply told in Mistress Penelope Pelham's own words why she threw over her young lover, Edward Buckley, and wedded the Governor, Richard Bellingham. In the writing of this short diary the author's cleverness is most evident, because the author is nowhere to be detected. Neither Mr. Bynner nor any other man appears in a line of it. Its innocence and unconscious cunning, its simplicity and skittishness, even its neat sarcasm, are all pure maidenly. Penelope knew perfectly well that Madam Hibbins, the Governor's sister, was her enemy, and why. But not an insinuation of that knowledge escapes from Penelope's pen. She contents herself with pelting the good lady with small stones every night after she has said her prayers and got herself into a sufficiently pious state of mind truthfully to record the day's events and her opinions thereon. Penelope doubtless had a few profane thoughts about the Rev. Mr. Colton, and could have said a vigorous word or two about straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel; but she permits herself no indiscretion. What she says of one of his discourses is worth quoting, not only as a good illustration of her manner, but also as a fine example of the weapons used by that gentleman and his worthy successors, the Mathers, for keeping their flock in order. Penelope was visiting Madam Winthrop, and, after supper, the talk turned on the weekly lecture.

"I marvelled to hear," she writes, "that the teacher, the Rev. Mr. Colton, therein inveighed loudly against wearing of lace veils over the face, which is newly the mode. Master Colton, it seemeth, spake bitterly of the practice as sinful and abominable, arguing a corrupt heart. At all this I was much perturbed, as I came hither with a smart new veil cast over my tiffany hood: and though in my blindness I perceive not that my heart is more corrupt, yet may I be deceived, and this mayhap prove a snare of the devil to lure us through vanity on to sin. Alack, how countless are the wiles of the tempter! Nothing, surely, seemeth more innocent than this film of network; 'tis pity if it be a sin, for it marvellously enhanceth the comeliness of an indifferent face."

The periods of life which most attract Mr. Sturgis's observation and imagination are those of youth and early manhood. They are certainly the most interesting because they are full of surprise; yet to catch the meaning of their inconsequence and vagaries and set it forth intelligibly is a herculean labor. In depicting John Maidment Mr. Sturgis was perfectly successful, but in John Maidment's character there was, from the beginning, one reliable quantity—absolute selfishness. Dick Hartland, of 'Dick's Wanderings,' is made up of unknown quantities. You feel that he is honest, ingenuous, a thoroughly good fellow, but to the last you have no assurance that his nature is incapable of distortion, that circumstances may not produce a man who fails to fulfil the fine promise of his youth. For this reason Dick is not so complete a literary creation as is Maidment, yet he is, humanly speaking, far more agreeable and admirable. He is not a conventional hero, nor the centre of a conventional plot. The interest is stronger in his mental wanderings than in his travels and adventures, in what he thinks about people and places than in what he does, in his theories than in his performance. Since the thoughts of generous youth are "long, long thoughts," and its theories all-embracing, the interest is clearly in the right place. Nevertheless, the figure of Dick is elusive. You cannot realize him; you are not sure of him; you can only hope for the best. The case is quite different with most of the other characters. Whether they appear in but one scene, or are intimately associated with Dick's career, they are solid, touched with life. The frivolous London society people, the honest British voter, the wandering Bostonians, have each his distinct individuality. The types are not rare either in life or in fiction, but each one is himself and cannot be confused with another of the same general character, habits, and manners. The exceptional figure is Fabian Deane, who from being Dick's tutor became his fast, adoring friend. The author describes Deane as "a man who was always doing something or going to do something; and the something generally startled the onlookers. . . . He was naturally unlike other people, and liked to be unlike them." Deane is not a typical Englishman, but he is a capital representative of a new class still limited in numbers. Energetic, enthusiastic, enlightened, they lack the balance of common sense which would lead them to make some practical use of their advantages. Frenchmen of similar stamp become famous at barricades; Americans get up a panic on Wall Street; Englishmen only talk, in or out of Parliament, and write long letters to their friends.

Though this is the longest of the author's novels, the style—easy, natural, and polished—is sustained throughout. It is a little remarkable that the English people use the contraction *ain't*, while one Lady Betty attaches herself to *wan't*. Is it possible that what is considered vulgar in America gives one at present the *cachet* of high fashion in England?

In 'The Cruise of a Woman Hater' a judicious widow is seen captivating a rash bachelor who has vowed eternal animosity against her sex. As soon as the situation is developed, the end is clear to the eye of experience. The persistent coyness of the widow, the long wrangles about men and women, are, for the purpose of intrigue, useless chaff. The widow is quite left out of the one really interesting and unusual incident. Of all the sea tales that have been told, we can recall none in which tragedy and comedy approach each other without offence so closely as in that wherein is narrated what befell the ship *Ajax*, the fever-stricken bark, and the Scotch steamer, *Bruna*.

ROMANTIC LOVE AND PERSONAL BEAUTY.

Romantic Love and Personal Beauty: Their Development, Causal Relations, Historic and National Peculiarities. By Henry T. Finck. Macmillan & Co. 1887.

MANY books have been written on the tender passion, lyrical, cynical, philosophical, and literary-historical, but not one, to our knowledge, like this one of Mr. Finck's. It is a perfect cyclopædia of quotations from poets, scientific men, and periodicals, and so might seem a bit of hack-work for the publisher; but it has a philanthropic thesis, which is urged with great perseverance, and in every conceivable light, so again it seems a work of enthusiasm. It is, in sooth, both enthusiastic and journalistic; and Mr. Finck appears to the reader as an optimistic lover of his kind, with an enormous capacity for reading and remembering, who, after beginning to take notes on his hobby, was fired with the ambition to be complete, and so launched himself on what resulted in a piece of market-literature. The cosmetic receipts and denunciations of tight lacing, high-heeled shoes, and the like, which abound in the last chapters, are certainly not original enough to have been written for their own disinterested sakes. As market literature, the work is sure of a great success. The style of it is singularly happy. None of the leering to which a Frenchman would inevitably have treated us; none of the oleaginous sentiment with which a German would have adorned his pages; but a clean, playful touch, which carries one along in the rapidest of measures, and often leaves whole sentences sticking in the memory. It is written *virginibus puerisque*. Cupid with the golden

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darts is the hero of it, and of Love's cruelty, and of "Vénus toute entière à sa proie attachée," we nowhere hear a word.

Its purpose, in fact, is to celebrate and glorify that innocent lovemaking, flirtation, and "pre-matrimonial infatuation" between youths and maidens which already has its seat in American life. This pre-matrimonial infatuation is the "romantic love" of which the title treats, and is by Mr. Finck considered to be the source of all health and beauty in races, and the hope of future humanity. Only through "sexual selection" and the "elimination of non-amorous motives to matrimony" can mankind continue to improve; and romantic love being the deepest and subtlest form of sexual selection, societies which oppose artificial barriers to it are doomed to degenerate, while those which allow it free scope and play will evolve. "The French marry for money and social convenience, and their children are ugly; the Americans marry for love, and have the most beautiful children in the world. Is it not more conducive to conjugal happiness to know that one has lovely children and that the race is increasing, than to have ugly children and to know that the race is dying out?" *Pari passu* with the evolution of romantic love, sexual divergence will go on, and the masculine and feminine types grow more and more unlike. The brown type will supplant the fair, the women will grow smaller, both sexes will grow more healthy and beautiful, and the males, strange to say, will lose their beards, while retaining their moustaches. So, at least, we read Mr. Finck, who, it will be seen, is not afraid to plunge into deep waters.

Romantic love, according to him, is a late product of evolution—not only the *fashion* of it, if we understand him aright, but the bare existence of it; although in this, as in other matters, geniuses like Dante and Shakspere have been in advance of their time. Mr. Finck devotes nearly two hundred pages of historical review to showing that love, as a cultivated modern person feels the passion, was unknown in any previous age. Modern love is that compound of enchantment and reverence which makes a woman a goddess until you have married her, when she becomes a woman again. No such bad thing, either, as Mr. Finck says, if you know how to manage her, yet no longer the inspirer of the peculiar passion which the word romantic is meant to describe. In his argument for the recency of this passion, Mr. Finck, we are persuaded, confounds men's feelings with their ideas about them. It is incredible that individual women should not at all times have had the power to fill individual manly breasts with enchanted respect; and Mr. Finck's literary quotations prove it, though meant to prove the opposite. So powerful and instinctive an emotion can never have been recently evolved. But our ideas *about* our emotions, and the esteem in which we hold them, differ very much from one generation to another; and literature (from which, of course, Mr. Finck's proofs have to be culled) is a record of ideas far more than of primordial psychologic facts. In ancient days, to be free from the passions was the goal of reflective aspiration. Philosophic calm, stoic serenity, were the ideal states of mind. Though men were doubtless slaves of pretty faces as much as now, their servitude was something on which they did not pride themselves as we do, nor celebrate in the longest and gravest of books. With the last century, a great change in our ideals took place. Sensibility was then discovered, so far from being a weakness, to be a wealth; and with our susceptibility for nature, our ennui, our despair, and a host of other morbidnesses, our lovesickness also became something admirable and worthy of the most long-winded and eloquent commemoration. Hence modern literary documents abound about a passion concerning which earlier literatures are relatively mute—mute, at least, so far as the modern tone of treatment goes. But as well might one say that chiaroscuro did not exist in nature till Rembrandt's time, as say that romantic love did not exist in human breasts till a couple of generations ago. Literature discovers one sort of effect after another, and the use that can be made of it. "Formerly," as Jules Janin remarks, "the woman between thirty and forty years of age was lost for passion, for romance, and the drama; now she rules alone. The girl of sixteen, as adored by Racine, Shakspere, Molière, Voltaire, Ariosto, Byron, Le Sage, Scott, is no more to be found." But does this prove that, until Balzac and George Sand wrote, no woman over thirty had ever loved or been loved?

As new effects are found, old ones go out of fashion. Friendship exists now as much as it ever did, but we fail to find in it food for the same literary treatment. Young fellows inspire romantic affection still in old fellows' breasts, but the old fellows are a little ashamed of owning to this form of emotional susceptibility now. In ancient times it was the fashion, and they were proud of it. No doubt the way in which we think about our emotions reacts on the emotions themselves, damping or inflaming them, as the case may be. Literature reacts on life; but just how much, it is hard to say. The love-drama is so complex, and contains so many acts, that it is likely that reflective interest in any one of them will alter the proportions of the play. But how much and for how long? is the question—the difficulty of answering which is seen (on a small scale) when we ask what effect the idealization of love for other men's wives in modern Parisian literature may have had on matrimonial constancy in France. The data are not to be had from life, and literature refers us back to literature for a reply—an obviously vicious circle. It is quite conceivable that the all but exclusive interest in love affairs which modern literature shows, will some day give place to an interest in more virile passions—new geniuses discovering new effects. But will there be no more love-making then?

Altogether, Mr. Finck's book illustrates (to the present reviewer's mind) the somewhat fatal effect of Darwinian ideas in letting loose the springs of irresponsible theorizing. Survival of the fittest, sexual selection, cross-fertilization, are phrases which one is tempted to use without restraint; and a sort of à-priori philosophizing is now rife which to a truly scientific mind is disheartening. What proof has Mr. Finck that the children of French interest-marriages are uglier and less healthy than those of American love-matches? Many observers would contradict the fact. But the book is most readable. It celebrates the ideal of American young people, and will help, doubtless, to confirm it. A specimen or two of its lighter style may appropriately end our notice:

"Women in turn are injured by Coyness; first, because it makes them act foolishly. French and German girls are systematically taught to take immediate alarm at the sight of a horrid man (whom they secretly consider a darling creature, with *such* a moustache), and conceal themselves behind their mamma or chaperon, like spring chickens creeping under the old hen at sight of a hawk. This sort of *spring-chicken coyness* does infinitely more harm than good: it makes the girls weak and frivolous; and as for the men, if they are systematically treated as birds of prey, how can they help falling in with their rôle? If men are to behave like gentlemen, they must be treated like gentlemen, as they are in England and America" (p. 119).

"Anglo-American love is Romantic Love, pure and simple. . . . England has many a bright jewel in the crown of her achievements in behalf of civilization, but the brightest of all is this, that she was the first country in the world—ancient, mediæval, or modern—that removed the bars from woman's prison windows, opened every door to Cupid, and made him thoroughly welcome and comfortable. And grateful Cupid has retaliated, by setting up English manners and customs as a model which all other nations are slowly but surely copying. Eighteen million souls in the United States, or almost two persons in every five, are not of English origin; yet of these there are not one million who have not given up their old-country methods of courtship as antiquated, and adopted the Anglo-American style. The Germans in America make love not after the German, but after the English fashion. So do the French, though somewhat more reluctantly and tardily. In San Francisco and Chicago, it is said that but one name in ten is of English origin; yet who ever heard of a San Franciscan or Chicagoan making love in foreign style? . . . And now that England is gradually extending her influence to every one of the five continents, Romantic Love—to whose sway, quite as much as to their active outdoor life, the English owe the fact that they are to-day the handsomest and most energetic race in the world—is also rapidly extending its sphere, and will finally oust the last vestiges of Oriental-despotism, feminine suppression, and mediæval masculine barbarism" (p. 289).

"German girls also enjoy an advantage over the French in having a literature which is pure and wholesome; and by reading about Romantic Love they train and deepen their feelings. It is often said that Heine's influence has been chiefly negative. The truth is, *Heine is the greatest emotional educator Germany has ever had.* More young men and girls have wept over his lyrics than over any other poetry. His 'Buch der Lieder' has done more to foster the growth of Romantic Love in Germany than all other collections of verse combined; not only by their own unadorned beauty, but through the soulful music wedded to these poems by Schubert, Schumann, and other magicians of the heart. The fact that the copyright on Heine's works was soon to expire, and the country to be flooded with cheap editions, has long caused Master Cupid to rub his hands in gleeful anticipation of brisk business; and he has just given orders in his arsenal for one hundred thousand new golden arrows" (p. 286).

"One thing must be admitted. The Germans are the most systematic and persevering nation in the world. They took music, for instance, from her Italian cradle, and reared her till she developed into the most fascinating of the modern muses. They lead the world in scientific research; and within a few years they have terrified the English monopolists by a sudden outburst of thoroughgoing Teutonic activity and world competition. Let but the Germans once make up their mind that they want Personal Beauty, and lo! they will have it in superabundance. The professorships of hygiene which are now being established at the universities will doubtless bear rich fruit. If Bismarck discovered the full significance of Anglo-American Courtship, he would forthwith order an hour of it to be added to the daily academic curriculum; and if he realized the importance of racial mixture, he would order shiploads of South American and Andalusian brunettes to be distributed among his officers as wives. Nor would female education be any longer neglected, were it fully understood how essential it is to Personal Beauty and true Romantic Love, the basis of happy conjugal life" (p. 527).

One short one to close with. Our author is no believer in the incurability of Cupid's wounds. Second love may be better than first. "*For his size*, a boy may love as ardently as a man; but the man is bigger."

The Russian Church and Russian Dissent; comprising Orthodoxy, Dissent, and Erratic Sects. By Albert F. Heard, formerly Consul-General for Russia at Shanghai. Harper & Bros. 1887.

Our author's intention was to give the general reader—"without any pretence of theological erudition"—"a consecutive account of the Orthodox Church of Russia, commencing with its origin and history," even from the separation of the churches of the East and West, before there was a Russia, Christian or pagan; "then investigating its present condition and that of its clergy, tracing the causes and consequences of the schism which arose in the seventeenth century, and still continues, and, finally, examining the

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innumerable sects springing from the schismatic movement, or from the inherent devotional character of the people." The historical account he elaborated after a considerable number of first-class authorities—Russian (translated), French, English, and German; and the view of the Church, the clergy, and the sects, as they are, mainly after Leroy-Beaulieu, "borrowing freely" from the latter. Thus informed in the Preface, we expected to find a compilation, presented by a dilettante in Russian matters, possibly speculating, as a bookmaker, on the almost morbid interest in everything Russian which has arisen in our day. In this we have been very pleasantly disappointed. If Mr. Heard's work is to be classified as a compilation, it is one in the best sense of the word. He has perfectly mastered his subject, and has worked it up in the calmly unbiassed temper of an historian, and in a style at once clear and terse. He offers no original theories, no new views, but plenty of sound observations and interesting details, carefully selected.

The six historical chapters treat respectively of the separation of the Roman and Byzantine Churches, and the differences between them, external and internal; the introduction of Christianity into Russia; the Russian Church from its foundation to its independence upon Constantinople, and the United-Greek and Orthodox Churches in Poland; the Russian Church during and on the downfall of the Tartar sway, and the establishment of the Patriarchate; the Church on the extinction of the Rurik dynasty and under the first Romanoffs, the great reformation of Nikon, and the rise of Dissent (Raskol); and the reunion of the Polish Orthodox Church to the Russian, the substitution by Peter the Great of the Holy Synod for the Patriarchate, and the absorption of the "Unia." All this ecclesiastical evolution is presented in close connection with the state history of the empire of the Czars, lay characters being brought out in equal relief with church dignitaries. Compare, for instance, the sketch of Ivan the Terrible with that of the reformer Nikon, and the peculiar and often changing aspects created by the always active double allegiance of the Russian masses to Czar and creed—a dualism productive of the most fiery enthusiasm when in harmony, and of fanatical antagonism and revolt when in conflict. With the abolition of the Patriarchate, however, by which Peter the Great made himself and his successors virtual autocrats of the Church, the historical narrative is almost ended, only a few pages cursorily referring to the completion of the work of unification under Catharine II. and Nicholas. The results of Peter's reform are summed up thus:

"The radical changes in the ecclesiastical organization made by Peter the Great, and maintained intact by his successors, aided by the extraordinary growth of the power of Russia and of its monarchs, the absolutely autocratic nature of its government, and the singularly submissive disposition of the Russian people, produced in time their anticipated result. The Church lost its individuality and independence, as a necessary consequence of the impersonal character of the Holy Synod, its governing body and head. Composed of many men, holding, with few exceptions, their positions by the will and at the pleasure of the sovereign; severally liable to the influences of different, and possibly conflicting, motives; with a representative of the Emperor, source of all power, in their midst—the Synod no longer possessed the singleness of purpose and the unity of action inherent to the authority of one supreme pontiff. By the suppression of the Patriarchate, all danger of rivalry or conflict between Church and State was averted, but with it disappeared, as well, the independence of the former, and much of its energy and vitality. It became practically, what it now remains, the vassal of the Crown, . . . one of the many powers which make up the State, whereof the Tsar is absolute head."

A general blemish of Mr. Heard's book is its inconsistent, and often in every way wrong, transliteration of Russian names, evidently attributable to indiscriminate copying of sources in various languages. German spellings, like "Dobrutscha," "Lubetsch," "Kasan," "Karamsin," alternate with French ones, like "Donskoï," "Minime," "Pojarsky," and "Voronege." Worse than these is the mongrel "Shouesky." Polish names are also misspelled: "Sobiesky," "Zalusski." The author's knowledge of Polish history, with which his subject brings him in frequent contact, is altogether inadequate, as witness the following slips: Vitold, Grand-Prince of Lithuania, is called "King of Poland" (p. 32), and Bukovina "a province of Gallicia" (p. 227); and "King Stanislas"—meaning Stanislas Augustus, who ascended the throne in 1764—is introduced (p. 129) as Polish sovereign "during the reign of Elizabeth," who died in 1762. "Cossacks of the Don" stands twice (pp. 68, 71) for Cossacks of the Ukraine; and we also find "Vitoft" for "Vitold" (p. 32), "Slovenie" for *Slavianie* (p. 69), "Innocentius" for Innocent (p. 116), and "1852" (p. 135) as a year of "the disastrous war of the Crimea," which broke out in 1853. "Vitoft" and "1852" are, however, probably misprints, like "Khorazian" for Khozarian (p. 17), though the book has been subjected to careful proof-reading.

Comparative Morphology and Biology of the Fungi, Mycetozoa and Bacteria. By A. de Bary, Professor in the University of Strassburg. Translated by H. E. F. Garnsey, M.A. Revised by I. B. Balfour, M.D., etc. Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan. 1887.

GREATLY are we indebted to these two Fellows of Magdalen College—one of them the zealous Professor of Botany in Oxford University—for this good English translation of De Bary's excellent work (published three years ago) on the Fungi, Slime-Fungi, and Bacteria. We judge it to be a model text-book, well-proportioned, and so clear that any one having a fair amount of ordinary botanical knowledge may read it from beginning to end with satisfaction. It should be the *vade mecum* of the special student; for the translators are quite safe in characterizing it as "the most thorough and comprehensive treatise upon these subjects which has appeared in any language." Three-fourths of the volume is devoted to the Fungi proper, including those which form lichens. For, of course, De Bary fully adopts the Schwendener view of the algo-fungal nature of lichens, which, indeed, he was the first to suggest, in a tentative way, and which he regards as completely established by Stahl and Bonnet.

As to the ambiguous Myxomycetes, or the Slime-Fungi and their allies, De Bary holds to the opinion that they belong to the animal rather than to the vegetable kingdom; and he accordingly restores to them his earlier name of Mycetozoa. In any case he will not allow them to be Fungi, nor will he admit into that class the Schizomycetes or Bacteria, holding that they form the connecting link between the flagellate animalculæ (from which the Mycetozoa probably sprang) and the lower Algæ. Only forty-five pages of this volume are given to the Bacteria. Into this narrow space is condensed a most clear and authentic account of the nature and mode of life of these ambiguous and renowned little beings, interspersed with some judicious criticism.

The Rules of Order Governing Public Meetings, together with the methods of organizing and conducting Societies, Associations, Clubs, Unions, &c. By F. M. Payne. Excelsior Publishing House. 12mo, pp. 169.

THIS book seems to be a manual written to order, to supply a presumed want on the part of a public anxious to organize, but unskilled in the forms of meetings. It is much more colloquial in its form than such a manual as Cushing's, and we seem to perceive a Western atmosphere pervading it. There are forms for all kinds of societies, and fire companies may exist anywhere; but detective societies, as explained on pages 138-141, are not much in vogue in New England, at least.

The work is very fairly done, and the compiler has given a very sensible version of the rules most generally acknowledged. He does not apparently profess to be an expert, and he does not discuss the intricate points which harass conscientious presiding officers. His book will not supersede Cushing's Manual, and it is not as instructive as the works of Robinson, Fish, Roberts, or Spofford. Yet it contains much which they lack, and it cannot fail to interest a portion of the public which they do not serve.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

A Collection of Letters of Thackeray, 1847-1855. Charles Scribner's Sons. $2.50.
An Operetta in Profile. Boston: Ticknor & Co. $1.
Bayne, P. Martin Luther: His Life and Work. 2 vols. Cassell & Co. $5.
Cabot, J. E. Memoir of Ralph Waldo Emerson. 2 vols. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $3.50.
Drake, S. A. The Making of the Great West, 1512-1883. Charles Scribner's Sons. $1.75.
Field, Caroline L. The Unseen King, and Other Verses. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.
Gneist, Prof. R. Student's History of the English Parliament. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $3.
Hague, Rev. W. Life Notes; or, Fifty Years' Outlook. Boston: Lee & Shepard. $1.50.
Hatton, J. The Great World: A Novel. Harper & Brothers. 20 cents.
Hays, Helen. A Village Maid. Thomas Whittaker. $1.25.
Hazlehurst, G. S. The Invisible Telegraph of the Future. London: Trübner & Co.
Henty, G. A. Bonnie Prince Charlie: a Tale of Fontenoy and Culloden. Scribner & Welford.
Higginson, Mrs. S. J. A Princess of Java. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.50.
Holmes, Mrs. Mary J. Gretchen: A Novel. G. W. Dillingham.
Howells, W. D. A Modern Instance. Boston: Ticknor & Co. 50 cents.
Jones, W. H. Federal Taxes and State Expenses. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.
Koch, A. Prince Alexander of Battenberg. London: Whittaker & Co.; New York: Scribner & Welford.
Low Down: Wayside Thoughts in Ballad and Other Verse. London: Geo. Redway.
Marwedel, Emma. Conscious Motherhood. Chicago: Interstate Publishing Co. $1.65.
Mémoires du Général Cluseret (Le 2me Siège de Paris). 2 vols. Paris: Jules Lévy; New York: F. W. Christern.
Memoirs of Wilhelmine, Margravine of Baireuth. Harper & Brothers.
Müller, Prof. F. Max. The Science of Thought. 2 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons. $4.
Newton, Rev. W. W. The Vine out of Egypt. T. Whittaker. 50 cents.
Noyes, Prof. W. A. Elements of Quantitative Analysis. Terre Haute, Ind. 60 cents.
O'Hagan, J. The Song of Roland, translated into English Verse. Boston: Willard Small. 75 cents.
Parker, Rev. J. The People's Bible. Vol. 6. Discourses on Judges VI.—1 Sam. XVIII. Funk & Wagnalls. $1.50.
Payne, F. M. The Rules of Order. Excelsior Publishing House.
Peterson, A. Songs of the New Sweden. Philadelphia: E. Stanley Hart & Co.
Phelps, Elizabeth S. The Gates Between. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.25.
Phillips, F. C. As in a Looking-Glass: A Novel. Geo. Munro.
Poor, H. V. Manual of the Railroads of the United States for 1887. 20th year. H. V. & H. W. Poor.
Pratt, Dr. H. Jesus, bar Rabba, or Jesus, bar Abba? London: Williams & Norgate.
Rabelais, F. Three Good Giants. Boston: Ticknor & Co.
Racot, Adolphe. Portraits d'aujourd'hui. Portraits d'hier. 2 vols. Paris: Librairie Illustrée; Boston: Schoenhof.
Redway, J. W. Butler's Physical Geography. Philadelphia: E. H. Butler & Co.
Russell, W. C. A Book for the Hammock. Harper & Brothers. 20 cents.
Sanford, E. B. History of Connecticut. Hartford: S. S. Scranton & Co. $2.
Siller, F. Lieder und Sprüche. Milwaukee: C. N. Caspar. $1.
Smith, Adam. The Wealth of Nations. 2 vols. (Bohn's Standard Library.) Scribner & Welford.
Stevenson, R. L. Underwoods: Poems. Charles Scribner's Sons. $1.
Stewart, A. Seneca on Benefits. (Bohn's Classical Library.) Scribner & Welford.
Stickney, A. M. Tulli Ciceronis Cato Major et Lælius. Harper & Brothers.
Stockton, F. R. The Bee-Man of Orn, and Other Fanciful Tales. Charles Scribner's Sons. $1.25.
The Dialogue of the Gulshan-i-rāz. London: Trübner.
The Lost Wedding-Ring. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 75 cents.
Tolstoi, Count L. N. The Cossacks, translated by Eugene Schuyler. New ed. W. S. Gottsberger.
Tolstoi, Count L. N. What to Do? Thoughts Evoked by the Census of Moscow. Thos. Y. Crowell & Co. $1.25.
Tolstoi, Count L. N. La Puissance des ténèbres: drame. Traduction Halpérine. Paris: Perrin; Boston: Schoenhof.
Tourgee, A. W. Button's Inn. Roberts Bros.
Tulloch, Rev. W. W. The Story of the Life of Queen Victoria. For children. A. C. Armstrong & Son. $1.25.
Tyler, Prof. M. C. Patrick Henry. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.25.
Walker, Dr. J. Health Lessons: A Primary Book. D. Appleton & Co. 56c.
Warden, Florence. Scheherazade: a London Night's Entertainment. D. Appleton & Co. 25 cents.

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